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ASSIUT (AP) - Police rounded up 127 suspected militants Friday and Saturday in the southern province of Assiut following the slaying of eight police over the past two weeks, security sources aid. The arrests came in raids on hideouts of suspected m the sources said. The city of Assiut, 320 kilometres south of Cairo, has been a centre of radicals opposed to the government. An Interior Ministry official in Cairo said raids also were carried out in other southern provinces plagued by violence, but he could not confirm the number of arrests. The official added that any suspect not on government wanted rolls would be released immediately. This number of arrests is the biggest since the failed attempt on President Hosni Mubarak's life in Ethiopia last month. No figure

was given for those arrests, but they were believed to number in

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سياسيّة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردسة ،الراي،

Volume 19 Number 5968

the dozens or possibly hundreds.

AMMAN SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1995, MUHARRAM 18, 1416

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Gunmen kill Palestinian policeman

GAZA CITY (AP) - Unidentified, masked gunmen shot and killed a policeman guarding the house of Gaza's chief civil judge Saturday, a police chief said. Brigadier General Ghazi Jabali, head

of the civil police, said three gunmen opened fire at Akram Ahmad as he stood outside the house of Judge Qusai Al Abdali on

Nasr Street and then fled in their white Peugeot, "We're looking for the culprits and we hope to catch them," said Gen. Jabali.

Scores of policemen fanned out throughout Gaza City and set up checkpoints that stopped cars and asked for identifications. It was the first time that unknown assailants opened fire on a policeman

since the force was set up in the Gaza enclave when autonomy was established there in May 1994. Majed Abedi, who owns a shop

with pinball machines across from Mr. Abdali's house, said the

three men, equipped with assault rifles, got out of the car and opened fire at the policeman. "When they started shooting, the

people on the street tried to stop them," he said. "But the gunmen

started firing in the direction of the people before speeding off in

### King phones Moroccan leader

ulate drugs, it has a Majesty King Hussein Saturto do about its in the day evening telephoned King his nicotine is add. Hassan II of Morocco to expense over the denicotine is adding change views over the de-New York Time change views over in Bos-Waii Street tenorating situation to Describe Street to the con-President Bill Clim plight in the light of the conred Thursday sets, pugnt in the ugint of the somewhat page tinued attacks by Serb forces.

The King said that approprisely the save as should be taken Say he is considering ate measures should be taken to regulate nictore; by the world community to "My concern is stop this tragedy and expressof clearatie should ed Jordan's readiness to join lariy on our oct any effort to end the suffer-and the lac ing of the Bosnian people. smoking seems to He said Jordan will be ready among our 10m; to join the efforts of Islamic certain): among and other regional and intergroups of them national organisations in pro-FDA widing aid to the Bosnian ciais me Wathe people. Discussion also cowere scheduled to vered developments at the later. 22.1 Was pan-Arab and world levels as spokesman had well as bilateral relations.

Ty had he y the two monarchs agreed to more about had maintain contacts over matamong youth the ters of concern to the Arab done and  $\Gamma_{m,q_0}$ . Nation.

### that, but I wanted Swaziland invites what their recons are." Mr. Chage: King and Queen

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on World's old Saturday received at the footprint for Royal Court the foreign minister of Swaziland, Soloin Australia mon Delamini, who conveyed to the King and Her PERTH Majesty Queen Noor an in-Australia and a vitation by King Mswati III of tiste have forther. Swaziland to visit his country. 200 Me Act of King Hussein voiced apprefactorities are ciation of the invitation and west Australia asked the minister to convey · his greetings to King Mswati.

### Austria backs Palestinian rights

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A senior Austrian -official visited the Palestine Liberation : Organisation (PLO) office in Arab East Jerusalem Saturday and said her country supported the Palestinian claim to that part of the city, Israel Television .. reported. Austrian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Benita Ferrero-Waldner met with Faisal Husseini, the PLO's senior representative n Jerusalem, during a visit to naugurate an Austrianponsored day care clinic for alestinians in Jerusalem. Following the meeting at the Orient House, the PLO readquarters in the city, Ms. er-ero-Waldner said Autria supports the Palestinian

### Evans holds Malks in Syria

- cosition on East Jerusalem.

Autralian Foreign Minister Jareth Evans met Saturday Fujimori Assad for the Hafez Al for givorce East peace process and other nternational issues. Mr. Evans also met Prime Miniser Mahmoud Al Zoubi and Foreign Minister Farouk Al haraa. Mr. Evans said Frilay he hoped Australia could contribute to peace efforts ecause "a big number of Australian nationals are of

## raq restoring iaq resto lamaged copters'

"Arab origin."

"IAGHDAD (AFP) - Iraq vorsition (AFF) — Iraq elicopters damaged in its 991 Gulf War after restoring onflict with Iran and the s land forces, Iraqi papers aid Saturday. The son of resident Saddam Lives of Iday, is in charge of the peration, according to the apers, which did not say ow Iraq had managed to btain spare parts. President addam has called on Iraqis to rely on their own means" overcome the U.N. oil and ade embargo imposed when aghdad invaded Kuwait in 390. Youth television late riday showed pictures of lday inspecting the work hich began in May and talkig to technicians in charge of the mestion storing several dozen heliopters. Some were damaged

the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq ar, and others in the Gulf 200 752 onflict. Uday has "given inructions to complete the sk swiftly as a present for resident Saddam." his wife of refer

# Serbs press assault as world ponders how to respond to defiance

Bosnian Serb forces Saturday shelled the U.N.-declared safe area of Zepa, while world leaders dithered on the right response to the growing Bosnian crisis.

As U.N. chiefs met with Serbia's president in Belgrade and France and Britain pickered over how to stop the Serbs' advance, Serb forces Saturday barred aid convoys from the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) from entering eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina to help refugees from the fallen enclave of Srebrenica, aid officials in Belgrade said.

Four explosions rocked the centre of Zepa town Saturday afternoon as small arms skirmishes occurred around the enclave, U.N. officials said. However, U.N. spokesenclave was under "an infantry and artillery attack from directions. The Serb forces ringing Zepa have been expected to

Bosnian radio report that the

launch an attack on the enclave since they crushed another "safe area," Srebrenica earlier this week and issued an ultimatum for Zepa's defenders to lay down their arms and told U.N. peacekeepers to leave. In an effort to avert

another catastrophe, the commander of U.N. forces in Bosnia, Lieutenant General Rupert Smith, sent a letter to the Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) commander, General Ratko Mladic, demanding that he "exercise maximum restraint" and not "pursue an attack against the enclave."

He warned an attack on the enclave would "lead to increased international conman Alexander Ivanko was demnation and isolation" and reminded Mr. Mladic that his

NATO air power.'

Earlier this week, Mr. Mladic's frontline troops shrugged off air attacks and brushed past Dutch peacekeepers into the Srebrenica enclave, another U.N. safe area, which fell in a matter of hours.

The fall of Srebrenica sparked condemnation around the world but again highlighted the disunited approach of the Western democracies to the Bosnian conflict. Diplomatic tensions rose

between Britain and France on Saturday following re-marks made by British Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind in a morning radio inter-

Referring to recent statements by President Jacques Chirac calling for tougher action by troop contributors to

## unable to confirm a midday PLO, Israel start drafting West Bank accord today

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) negotiators will begin on Sunday drafting an accord on Palestinian selfrule in the West Bank aiming to conclude an agreement by a July 25 target date, a PLO official said on Saturday.

PLO negotiator Hassan Asfour said four committees negotiating a redeployment of Israeli troops and security arrangements in the West Bank, legal issues, Palestinian elections and a transfer of civil authorities, would meet at a hotel in the northern Israeli town of Zichron

"We will start working on redeployment maps and drafting the accord," Mr. Asfour told Reuters.

"We will do our utmost through intensified negotiations in the coming week to

By Natasha Bukhari

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - As expecta-

tions of an imminent

cabinet reshuffle pick up

momentum, politicians and

analysts are beginning to

discuss the possibility of a

new attempt by the govern-

ment to win over Jordanian

leftists, some of whom are

growing restless with their

uneasy alliance with the

Leftist leaders, particu-

larly the communists,

charge that government

policies have left them with

no choice but to form and

stay inside their 11-party

opposition camp which is

dominated by the Islamic

Action Front (IAF). The

disgruntled leftists, howev-

er, are not saying under

what conditions the left

would switch alliances,

especially under the cur-

rent terms of Jordan's

In explaining the nature

of their relations with the

Islamists and hardline pan-

Arabists who are opposed

to peace with Israel in prin-

ciple, leftists say that their

alliance with these groups

is dictated by the internal

situation in the Kingdom as

well as the government's

"failure" to open up the

state's institution for leftist

and "democratic" parties.

Many leftists say that

they support peace with

Israel, but are against what

they describe as "unilateral

peace treaty with Israel.

Islamists.

finalise the interim accord in order to meet the July 25 target date," he said. Israeli and PLO nego-

tiators, under tight security, held their first session of marathon talks in Zichron Yaacov on Friday on the second stage of Palestinian self-rule launched in Gaza and Jericho last May. The interim accord,

already one year behind schedule, covers an Israeli troop redeployment from Palestinian-populated areas and elections for a Palestinian council which would rut most aspects of life in the West Bank and Gaza.

"In Zichorn Yaacov we set the agenda for the coming week's talks and we will work continuously to finalise an accord," Mr. Asfour said.

PLO officials said although both sides would try to conclude an agreement by July

and submissive deals that

fall short of comprehensive

Saying that communists

have called for peace since

the partition of Palestine in 1948, the leader of the

Jordanian Communist Par-

ty, Yacoub Zayadeen.

asked in a recent interview.

thrown in the lap of Islam-

that the "government's in-

tolerance of constitutional

prerogative" and its preoc-

cupation with im-

plementing the peace trea-

ty "despite the public's

opposition to the hasty

pace of normalisation with

Israel "has prompted the

joint stance between the

Islamists and leftists, who

have adopted a general

agenda to fight normalisa-

tion, regression in demo-

cracy and the growing

problems of poverty and

Politicians say, however,

that including figures from

the left in any new govern-

ment set-up will benefit

both the image and the

popularity of Sharif Zeid

Ben Shaker's cabinet.

which has come under in-

creasing criticism for "in-

tolerance" of the opposi-

In a recent interview with

the London-based Al

Wasat magazine, Foreign

Minister Abdul Karim

Kabariti was quoted as

saying that Jordanians are

divided into three camps

where peace with Israel is

unemployment."

'Why are we still being'

A former minister says

peace in the region.

25. the actual drafting of the accord may extend deyond the deadline.

Another senior PLO official accused Israel of letting the concerns of a few Israeli settlers in the West Bank get in the way of the agreement to extend Palestinian self-

Saeb Erekat, the Palestinian local government minis-ter, said: "Israel is trying to make us sign an agreement that is designed to please the few settlers dispersed along the West Bank. "Israel's persistence on this

point constitutes the principal gap that separates the two sides on security arrangements" to accompany an Israeli army redeployment away from Palestinian towns, he said at the end of the Palestinian government's

(Continued on page 7)

Left move towards centre is a possibility, politicians say

Division surfaces in leftist camp over continued alliance with Islamists

concerned: "A minority

which opposes peace in

principle, countered with

another minority which

supports peace enthusiasti-

cally and unreservedly, and

a majority which supports

rational and slow peace

In agreement with the

analysis, the former minis-

ter says that "a substantial

majority of people are against normalisation. Peo-

ple wanted comprehensive

peace in the region as well

as different terms for

peace... they had a totally

different perspective and

did not agree with the tim-

ing of the peace accord in

isolation from the other

Like-minded politicians

say that by splitting up the opposition by attracting the

leftists, whose position is perceived by some as the

closest to that of the major-

ity of Jordanians, the gov-

ernment could achieve two

goals: the first would be to

polish its current image as "undemocratic," and the

second would be to isolate

the Islamists and generally

weaken the opposition to

the government.
"The government would

be doing both itself and the

left a favour by co-opting

the moderate leftists, espe-

cially since official moves

towards implementing the

peace accord with Israel

are under no threat of

being hindered," a centrist

deputy says.
"The government would

be able to win over leftists

if it adopts a slower pace in

# King demands world action in Bosnia

their car.'

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday urged the world community to put an end to the "heinous crimes" committed by the Serbs against Bosnian civilians and described Serbian practices as reminiscent of atrocities committed before the establishment of the Un-

ited Nations. Addressing ambassadors to Jordan of the five nations which hold perma-nent membership of the U.N. Security Council, the King demanded United Nations and world community action to halt the ugly massacres to which Bosnian civilians are subjected at the hands of the Serbian forces, especially in those areas that fall under the control of U.N.

peacekeeping forces."
The King told the ambassadors the escalation of Serbian aggression came as a direct result of the feeble world reaction to their attacks and the world's apathy towards the tragedy of the Bosnian people and the serious violations of Al Qasem. their human rights.

"These inhuman practices and the heinous massacres are being committed while the United Nations is celebrating its 50th anniversary," said the King, noting that the world organisation was established to safeguard human rights and human dignity and freedom and man's right to secure and stable

The Serbs' practices, the King said, remind "us of the atrocities against people that used to be committed in the world before the creation of the world organisation," added King Hussein at the meeting which was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan

The King stressed the need for the United Nations and its various agencies to work towards the fulfiliment of their objectives and live up to the expectations of the world community of nations.

Radio Jordan said the King told French President Jacques Chirac on Friday that Jordan would pull out its troops from the U.N. peacekeeping force in former Yugoslavia if no military action was taken to stop Serb attacks against Mus-

ences after five years of

soured relations caused by

Mr. Kabariti, who arrived

here Saturday for the first

high-level meeting between

the two countries for five

years, attempted to draw a

line under the tensions that

surfaced after Riyadh ac-

cused Amman of supporting

Iraq in the crisis.
"The moment has come to

out an end to abnormal situa-

tion imposed by abnormal

events and to continue our

common initiative," he said

after being greeted by his

the 1990 Gulf crisis.

lim enclaves in Bosnia. "Jordan will withdraw its troops serving with the United Nations in former Yugoslavia if these troops prove unable to fulfil their duty, and if no measures are taken to put an end to this tragedy by reactivating the role of the United Nations and its troops..," the radio quoted the King as

King Hussein also backed Mr. Chirac's "principled and courageous stand" in demanding immediate action to end Serb attacks.

France said on Friday it was giving its Western allies 48 hours to decide whether or not they would join military action to halt Serb attacks. The responsefrom Britain and the United States has been cool.

# Sudan claims Egypt | Kabariti begins starting new dispute visit to S. Arabia

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudan accused Egypt Saturday of starting a new border dispute along the Red Sea, forcing out Sudanese from an area near the northern port of Wadi Halfa.

The official SUNA news agency said Egyptian authorities "have started provocations against Sudanese citizens in the Argeen region north of (Wadi) Halfa and tried to force them to move southwards.'

The agency did not describe the provocations or say whether the Egyptian army was involved.

Culture and Information Minister Abdul Bassit Sabdarat said: "This is a new escalation step by the Egyptian authorities and an attempt to lead a new aggression on Sudanese territory after their aggression on Halaib and their move to drinking water."

Egypt and Sudan have already been involved in skirmishes over their mutual claim to the Halaib region on

the Red Sea. "These Egyptian measures are directly targeting the Sudanese people who are

ready to defend their land

normalising relations with

Israel, giving people time to gradually break the

psychological barrier,

which is preventing them

from accepting the new

reality of a "warm peace,"

says a member of the

cabinet on condition of

that rather than using

"shock therapy" to break

barrier that have been

erected over nearly half a

century, a gradual

approach towards estab-

lishing normal ties with

Israel would wean people

away from opposing peace

state made a major mistake

by encouraging and sup-porting the Islamic move-

ment in the past while it was launching a fierce bat-

tle against them. "The state

has created them (Islam-

ists) and the same state is

now fighting them. When

they were being promoted

from one important posi-

tion to another, we were

being moved from one pris-

on cell to another," charges

Reflecting reservations

leftists have about working

with the Islamists under a

single pact, the communist

leader says that the Islamic

movement is now fighting

normalisation "under the

guise of democracy," which

he expects they would dis-

card if they were to assume

Islamists that if they were

to form a government, they

would also monopolise

"We've heard from some

Dr. Zayadeen.

Leftists insist that the

with Israel.

This minister believes

and integrity," the minister

Earlier in the week. Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir said 100,000 troops were standing by ready to defend Halaib.

But he pledged Saturday that his country would not go to war with Egypt to protect borders drawn up by its former colonialists.

"We will not raise a rifle in the face of the Egyptian soldier and we will not fight for borders created by the coloniser to disintegrate the Arab Nation," he said, quoted by SUNA. Instead, Lieutenant Bashir

said: "We seek to tear up

those borders." He repeated that the area belonged to Sudan "as proven by international laws and conventions." But he said Khartoum was seeking a peaceful settlement

through diplomatic and Sheikh Hassan Al Tourabi,

Sudan's spiritual leader, called Saturday for the border dispute with Cairo to be solved, after clashes erupted in the region earlier this month.

Mr. Tourabi told the

power and put an end to pluralism," Dr. Zayadeen

For their part, the Islam-

ists admit that their alliance

with the leftists is merely

tactical. "We will work

together for as long as we

agree on rejecting the

peace treaty... until a mo-

ment a dispute over princi-

ples erupts; that's when we

will find ourselves biased to

our principles, stands and strategies," Islamist Depu-

ty Hammam Said told the

Al Nidaa weekly newspap-

In fact, not all leftists

er in a recent interview.

agree with the communists

on the need to break away

from their alliance with the

Islamists, especially at this

stage, where the balance of

power in the region is

generally perceived as in

favour of the U.S. and

Other leftists believe the

government has already

attempted to create a rift

between the left and Islam-

ists to weaken the opposi-

tion. "The government has

been trying to convince lef-

tists to fight the Islamists,

but we refused to succumb

to their attempts," says a

leftist leader, also on condi-

He admits that the left is

indeed divided in its out-

look towards the alliance

with the Islamists, but says,

"my party has resisted, and

will continue to resist,

attempts by the govern-

ment to split and weaken

what those "attempts"

He did not elaborate on

the opposition."

tion of anonymity.

Israei.

(Continued on page 3)

issues such as early warning stations, preventing any accord on the fundamental

ended a four-day shuttle between Israel and Syria and left early Friday for Washington, having failed to set a new date for talks between milit-

ary experts.

stations on its territory, considering it a violation of its sovereignty. But Israel sees them as vital to preventing an attack on its territory from the strategic Golan Heights. "Israel has to give up its

For its part, Israel blamed Syria for the breakdown in talks. "There is a crisis which has

been provoked by the Syrians, it is serious," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview with state radio. He added: "The Americans also consider that

blame for this crisis." happy that no one can place

crisis is a Syrian creation," he said.

mr. reres said in the resumption of Israeli officers.

Saudi counterpart prince Foreign Minister Abdul Saud Al Faisal at Riyadh Karim Kabariti on Saturday airport. Foreign Minister Abdul called for Jordan and Saudi Arabia to settle their differ-

Karim Al Kabariti flew to Saudi Arabia on Saturday in the first such high-level trip since the 1990 Gulf crisis. Mr. Kabariti was received

by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal. It was possible that King Fahd would recieve Mr. Kabariti, Reuters reported. "It is time to emerge from

the effects of abnormal conditions so we may resume working together," said Mr. Kabariti on arrival in Rivadh. "It is a door-opening visit which we hope would help

(Continued on page 7)

# trade charges

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria on Saturday accused Israel of hampering last week's U.S. peace mission by insisting on early warning sta-

tions along their border. A Syrian official said Israel was "proposing conflicting

U.S. envoy Dennis Ross

The official said Damascus had not sent its military experts to the U.S. capital "because we refuse to send experts to Washington for tour-

"The evasiveness by Israel proves that they have yet to decide on whether to make peace with Syria, because in the negotiations on security measures, Israel insists on unimportant points, such as early warning stations," the official said.

Syria refuses to allow the

security demands which are contrary to the principles of equality and equilibrium such as early warning stations and control points" on the Golan, the official daily Al Thawra

Damascus is entirely to "I must say I am very

Mr. Peres said he did not

was "raising difficulties."

rent demand that Israel declare its readiness to withdraw from the entire Golan before Syria agrees to resuming direct negotiations was unacceptable."

"I don't think that one sidecan ask the other to declare on the final line of withdrawal (from the Golan) when it is still at the starting line," Mr. Peres said.

"Israel said that it accepts in principle the idea of withdrawal on the Golan Heights, but to say 'first of all accept everything that Syria de-mands and only afterward begin negotiations," this is really unacceptable," he added.

Mr. Peres also balked at Syria's demand for 'equal security" arrangements and said that if Israel relinquishes control over the Golan Heights it expects Syria to offer compensation for the security advantage it will ac-

"Whoever has the mountain (the Golan Heights) has the advantage." he said. When the Syrians ask us to go down from the Golan Heights, they themselves must propose what will be the compensation from a security point of view."
The U.S. State Depart-

ment sees a potential for Syria and Israel to get together on security issues. spokesman Nicholas Burns said Friday.

Mr. Burns said he had spoken to Mr. Ross Thursday evening after he engaged in security talks with Syria and Israel.

"(Ross's) discussions combined with the recent discussions of the chiefs of staff give us the view that there is a real potential for convergence on key issues relating to security arrangements," Mr. Burns told reporters.

Israeli radio stations Frida the blame on Israel. This reported that Syrian negotiators unexpectedly refused to agree to a date for talks between senior Swan and

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## Rights group says hundreds face unfair trials and torture

CAIRO (AP) - Since 1992, Syria has tried hundreds of political activists, some who had been tortured or detained for a decade without charge, and handed down sentences of up to 15 years for nonviolence offenses, a human rights group said Saturday.

The repression was reported despite encouraging signs since the 1991 Gulf war that Syria, ruled by President Hafez Al Assad since he seized power in a 1970 coup, was seeking to improve its human rights record amid Western press-

The government has released thousands of prisoners and eased restrictions of Jews seeking to emigrate, both gestures aimed in part at bettering Syria's relations with the West and opening the door to aid for the country's anemic eco-

But a report by the New York-based Human Rights Watch said that at the same time, the regime has been trying hundreds of activists for vague offenses that include "opposing any of the goals of the revolution.

Defendants are denied fair trials and barred from appealing the sentences, the group said.
'They're sending a

strong message to Syrian citizens that peaceful political action is not going to be tolerated," said Virginia Sherry, an associate director of Human Rights Watch who spent 48 days in Syria this spring to compile the report.

"It's a population where you pay an extremely high price for daring to dissent," she said in an interview.

The trials have accompanied widespread torture to wrest confessions from suspected activists, the report Prisoners told the group

they were subjected to beatings and electric shocks. One activist said his fingernails were ripped Some detainees said they

were tortured on the "German chair," in which the victim is tied by the hands and feet to a metal chair with moving parts. The chair's backrest bends backward, extending the spine and putting pressure

Other suspects spoke of the "chicken," a revolving wooden bar that resembles a roasting spit. The victim is strapped to the device and beaten with sticks by

In a response to the report, the Syrian govern-ment denied torture was routine and said 40 security officials had been prosecuted for mistreating pris-

A high-ranking Syrian official also acknowledged that some rights have been curtailed, but stressed that the country was still technically at war with Israel despite fitful peace negotiations that have dragged on since October 1991.

"We have to enforce some restrictions to ensure the stability of the country and the health of society, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Naser Qadur told Human Rights Watch.

The State Security Court, a three-judge tribunal in Damascus, began trying political activists. suspected members of unauthorised political groups and independent critics in earnest in 1992, Human Rights Watch reported.

At times, the chief judge acted as the prosecutor in court sessions that lasted as little as five minutes, the report said.
Tell us when you

started belonging to the party," Justice Fayez Al party," Justice Fayez Al Nouri, the court president, asked one Kurdish defendant accused of belonging to the Kurdish Labour Party, known by the acronym PKK. It is outlawed in neigh-

bouring Turkey. Two years ago, Syria agreed to stop harbouring the PKK in an agreement with Ankara. "What proof do you have

that you no longer support the party?" the judge asked another Kurdish defen-

The report was released at a time when many consider tight state control of Syria society is being relaxed, particularly after hundreds of political prisoners were freed beginning in late 1991. But Ms. Sherry said after

their release, prisoners are subjected to surveillance. harassment and pressure to become informers. The regime denies them

civil rights for 10 years after they are freed, bars them from working in the bureaucracy — the main source of employment from travelling abroad.

"Repression has not eased, but the tactics have changed," Ms. Sherry said. "Political space has not

## Cabinet reappoints Abbadi as mayor and names 20 other members of Amman council

AMMAN (Petra) — The municipal and rural affairs Zeid voiced satisfaction over signed documents of a trans-Cabinet on Saturday and public works, the Water the outcome of the municiport agreement between Joron Saturday appointed the 20 members Authority of Jordan, the of the Greater Amman Municipality Council who will be running Amman's municipal affairs along with their 20 colleagues elected last week in the general municipal elections.

The council will be led by the incumbent Mayor Mamdoub Abbadi, according to an announcement issued following a regular Cabinet session held Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

In addition to Dr. Abbadi, the list of appointed members includes the governor of Amman, secretaries general of the ministries of director general of the Land and Survey Department, the director general of the Amman Education Department, the director general of the Jordan Electricity Company, the director general of the Housing and Urban Development Department, the director general of the Telecommunications Corporation, the director of the Traffic Department, in addi-

tion to Nadeem Muasher, Mohammad Al Jamal, Abdul Majeed Asfour, Hani Al Haj Hassan, Huda Budeir, Mahmoud Taher, Mohammad Abu Hassan, Haidar Murad and Mohammad Huneiti.

affiliation with U.S. university

pal elections and thanked the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and all government departments which contributed to the success of the elections. In its meeting, the cabinet

approved an amendment to the income tax law which will be referred to the upper and lower house of parliament for endorsement. It also decided to appoint

Abdul Fattah Salah as secretary general of the Ministry of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs effective July 19.

In addition, the Cabinet decided to authorise the Kingdom's Ambassador in At the meeting, Sharif Beirut to exchange the

advice in the establish-

ment of administrative,

educational and physical

facilities, including

courses and programmes

leading to either certifi-

coordinate on-site short

courses and special

courses, and facilitate the

port agreement between Jordan and Lebanon and to set up a Jordanian delegation which will travel for Brussels to hold talks with the European union on means of achieving partnership deals between EU and Mediterranean countries.

The Council also decided to form a specialised delegation to hold talks with Egyptian officials on the prospect of purchasing natural gas from Egypt.

It also decided to set up a delegation to participate in the meetings of a Jordanian-Iraqi agricultural committee which will convene July 18 and approved Jordan's joining a U.N. agreement on conventional weapons.

### Jenin university signs accord of Polisario says it rejoining U.N. process

MADRID (AP) - A faltering U.N. operation to hold a referendum on the future of Western Sahara appeared back on track Friday as the Polisario Front said it would rejoin Morocco in helping to identify voters for the poll.

The Polisario Front, which seeks independence for the former Spanish colony, said the good offices of certain U.N. Security Council members had led it to reverse its June 23 decision to withdraw from the identification pro-

The voter identification halted one day after a Moroccan military tribunal sentenced eight saharans to long prison terms for demonstrating in the Moroccancontrolled territory in support of Polisario and inde-

The initiatives by unnamed countries "aimed at making Morocco immediately reconsider its arbitrary decisions" have restored the group's faith in the process, according to a statement from Polisario's headquarters in Tindouf, Algeria, that was re-leased by its Madrid office.

King Hassan II announced July 9 he was cutting the prison terms from 15 to 20 years to one year. The United States and other counthe trial. Several countries and the U.N. reportedly expressed dismay over the out-

The referendum, originally scheduled for 1992, has been postponed repeatedly because of disagreements over who is entitled to vote on whether Western Sahara becomes independent or a part of Morocco.

Polisario's statement charged that Morocco, is trying to pack the voter list with 100,000 "settlers" from Morocco. The U.N. last August began drawing up the list of voters who will decide the future of the Italy-sized terri-

Some 230,000 people have applied to be included in the list, but the U.N. mission has interviewed less than a quarter of them to deterine if they qualify.

The U.N. Security Council last month extended the mandate of its 330-member Western Sahara mission until Sept. 30 and called for a referendum in early 1996, but did not set a date.

# **NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Russian deputy foreign minister in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) - Russia is interested in reactivating Lebanese-Israeli peace talks, Russian deputy foreign minister Victor Possovalyuk said on Saturday. "We are interested in the reactivation of peace negotiations and in achieving progress on all tracks, especially on the Lebanese-Israeli track," Mr. Possovalyuk told reporters after meeting Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials in Beirut. "Russia has taken several steps to push things towards this direction through containing the Israeli party and the U.S. sponsor," he added. He did not give details. Mr. Possovalyuk, who arrived in Beirut on Saturday, met President Elias Hrawi and other Lebanese officials and was expected to leave for Syria later in the day.

### 3 die, 200 poisoned from chlorine in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — Three people were killed and 200 others were poisoned after inhaling chlorine gas in northern Iran, the official IRNA news agency reported Saturday. Authorities in the coastal town of Astara, on the Caspian Sea bordering Azerbaijan, told IRNA the gas leaked Friday from a Russian-imported tank. The tanks were stockpiled in the courtyard of the town's customs department and were destined for Tehran's water and sewage department. Among the victims were many summer uncertainty of the sewage department of the sewage department. mer vacationers campaing in a part next to the customs department, including several Azerbaijani nationals who were poisoned. The authorities have launched an investigation, although a local official told IRNA that the accident may have occurred because the tanks did not meet safety standards. Chlorine is a toxic substance used for cleaning and water purification, and in concentrated form can be

### Iran finds remains of 3,000 soldiers

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran has found the remains of 3,000 of its soldiers and volunteer militiamen killed during the 1980-1988 war against Iran, the official news agency IRNA reported Saturday. A mass funeral is to be held for 2,695 of the fighters after the weekly prayers at Tehran University on Friday and the rest would be buried in several other provinces on Wednesday, it said citing an Iranian official. It said the remains had been found recently but did not elaborate further. The head of a committee in charge of searching for soldiers missing in action (MIAs), Mir Feisal Bagherzadeh, also said hundreds of mines and other explosives planted during the conflict had been discovered and defused during search operations for the victims. The remains of a total of 20,000 soldiers and militiamen have been discovered since the end of the war in August 1988, he said. Mr. Bagherzadeh added three members of his committee had been killed during the latest operations, which also discovered the remains of several Iraqi soldiers killed on the Iranian soil. He said, however, that the bodies of Iraqi soldiers had not been recovered for "hygienic considerations," but that "further actions" could be taken if Iraq decided to cooperate.

### Egyptair to sign for 3 Airbus 340-200s

CAIRO (R) — Egyptair, the Egyptian government airline, will sign to buy three Airbus 340-200s next Wednesday, an official of Airbus Industrie said on Saturday. Airbus Industrie will deliver the first two in October or November 1996 and the third probably in June 1997, said the official. "The price is confidential," he added. The three aircraft are expected to cost a total of about \$280 million. Under the agreement, Airbus Industrie will undertake to find someone to buy three old Airbus 300-B4s which Egyptair wants to dispose of, the official said. Egypt is thinking of raising some of the money by issuing bonds on the Cairo market. Egyptair also plans to buy three Boeing 777s.

### Cyprus' chief pathologist fired on TV

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus' chief pathologist was fired after television camera in a hospital car park. "It is though the Health Ministry is the private business of every small-town lawyer who becomes a minister from one minute to the next," the British-trained Marios Matsakis said. "He is the most incompetent minister I have seen for a long time." Health Minister Manolis Christofides' voice was shaking with rage as he sacked Mr. Matsokis on Friday for "unprofessional behaviour," after refusing to perform a post mortem with a female colleague on the body of a woman found murdered on Friday. "The state of Cyprus can live without Matsakis," Mr. Christofides told the private Sigma TV station crew who filmed the incident. "I'm firing him...you are fired Mr. Matsakis."

### 3 Lebanese held in Kiev for \$3m ransom

NICOSIA (AFP) - Three Lebanese businessmen have been kidnapped in Ukraine and are being held for a three million dollar ransom. Cypriot police said Saturday after calling in Interpol. Mustafa Ali Bioglou, a Lebanese businessman who holds a Cypriot passport, told police Friday that his son Salah, brother Bassam and an employee Abdul Ali Osman were seized during a business trip to Kiev. Mr. Bioglou said he had spoken to his son by phone and to one of the kidnappers who told him to deposit the three million dollars in a bank account in Washington. The number was faxed to his offices in Limassol, in the south of the Mediterranean island. His son and Osman are both Lebanese but resident in Cyprus, while his brother Bassam holds a Cypriot passport. Police said that Bioglou suspected a former associate who he has accused of trying to

### cates or degrees, issue certificates or degrees for tent of affiliation with an work completed at AAU. American university, the offer liaison facilities for president of the Jenin uni-AAU to set up relations versity said Saturday. with American academy disciples beyond CSUS, It is the first such

nian university in the West Bank town of Jenin has signed a letter of in-

AMMAN - A Palesti-

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

accord to be signed after Palestinian self-rule began in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in May 1994 and reflected increased confidence that the peace pro-cess between the Palestinians and Israel would eventually lead to the realisation of Palestinian independence. Education was one of

the key sectors which suffered severely under the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip since Israel occupied the territories in the 1967 After the breakthrough

interim self-rule accord signed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel in September 1993, many groups have been formed to set up schools and higher education facilities in the West Bank, but the letter of intent signed last week was the first to formally set up ties between West Bank institution and an American uni-

The Arab American University of Jenin (AAU) and the California State University Stanis-



laus (CSUS) signed the documents on Thursday, said AAU President Maher Irsheid. Mr. Irsheid said that

the AAU had already secured approval from the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) to operate as a private university in

Under the letter of in-tent, AAU will connect itself with Internet, the international computer network, development courses and programmes compatible with the CSUS, establish an American language and cultural programme to help students obtain profficiency in English, provide electronic access to students resources, and adide d' all university requirements of the CSUS.

In return, the CSUS will provide E-mail access to AAU students to CSUS facilities, offer

establishment of a university in all aspects, including faculty and staff development. "California State University Stanislaus is in-terested in full affiliation with the Arab American University in Jenin and will co-issue certificates and bachelors or masters degrees on behalf of the Arab American University in Jenin," says the let-

"All parties have agreed that the standards and quality of California State University Stanis-laus must be maintained,"

ter of intent.

The document was signed by Mr. Irsheid, a former member of the Jordanian Parliament. and Thomas O'Neil, director of the California State University Stanis-

Mr. Irsheid said he expected the AAU to be operational by October

### 1996 and that the initial cost of the project was around \$20 million.

### Islamists' defeat in municipal polls is significant to Mousa Hantash and in Saleh Ghasawi, the Islamist when three of the Islamist

By Ramedan Rawashdeh Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - Is the Jordanian Islamists' loss of four main areas of Amman in the recent municipal elections a sign of the group's popular retreat in the capital or does the failure have other indications?

We can safely say that the Islamists main loss was in Basman district, which has always been considered their most important stronghold at the political and grassroot levels.

This stronghold came to light in the parliamentary elections of 1989 and 1993

JORDAN TELEVISION

candidates were elected. It is the same district where Islamist candidate Mousa Bantash assumes the leadership of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) party.

The Islamists' defeat in Basman, Tareq, Marka and Naser was a direct result of tribal competition but they achieved success in Ras Al Ain, Bader and Khreibet Al Souq, where their rivals were weaker at the tribal and grassroot levels. In the Basman district

tribal candidate Khalaf Al Baraiseh received 961 votes against 909 votes that went

Marka district Mohammad Irteimeh received 1,826 votes while Islamist Marwan Al Malihi got only 588 In Tareq district, Khalil

Habarneh received 1,121 votes out of 4,660 votes while Islamist Hatem Al Bsishtawi got 408 votes. In Al Naser district, Saleh Hamlan received 1.541 votes while Islamist

Mohammad Banna received 1,303 votes, and in Bader district Mousa Wahsh, an Islamist, received 1.739 votes.

In the Khreibet Al Souq,

USEFUL

TELEPHONE

NUMBERS

candidate, got 1,226 votes out of a total of 4,488 votes and Islamist candidate in Ras Al Ain, Ayoub Abdul Karim, received 1,428 votes out of 6,669 votes.

The total number of votes received by the seven Islamist candidates was 7,611 in areas where 32,889 voters were eligible to cast ballots. The question that re-

mains here is: Do these figures indicate a retreat of the Islamist influence in the Amman region and subsequently indicate a retreat in the Ammanites' support

The municipal elections could be a real indication of the actual situation, especially as the Islamists exerted all their efforts and mobilised all their forces to support their candidates. Generally speaking, the

overall success in the elections was for the tribal and independent candidates. We have to take into account of the fact that leftists who ran for the Wadi Seer and Ras Al Ain seats as well as nationalists who fielded candidates in Wadi Nasser also lost to tribal candidates.

# **JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR**

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Anglican Church Tel 630851, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel 771331. ian Orthodox Church Tel St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Ammar N52526. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328. German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tcl. 684195 The Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 654932 Charch of Nazarene Tcl. 675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-

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Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29, Aqaba 37, Humidity teadings: Amman 47 per cent. Agaha 33 per cent.

### **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN:

Dr. Jamil Maraqa Dr. Shtaiwa Abu Zayid Firas pharmacy Ferdows pharmacy Al Asema pharmacy Nairoukh pharmacy Al Salam pharmacy Yacoub pharmacy Shmeisani pharmacy Nairoujh pharmacy Najib pharmacy	737962 661912 778336 637055 623672 636730 644945 637660 623672
IRBID: Dr. Muhammad Al Hilu Alquds pharmacy	279773
ZARQA: Dr. Zryad J'aitm Khalifch pharmacy	(—) 9RS417

## **EMERGENCIES**

Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate

Civil Defence Emergeney 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blond Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390 ic Security Department .... Water and Sewerage 897467

(directory assistance) . Central Aguman Telephone 

Water Authority Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 Electric Power Company 636381 RJ Flight Information ... 08-53200 Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

# HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Justoin Medical Centre \$13813/32 Khahdi Matermity, J. Amn 644281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Artırı

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Princess Basina Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital

### Princess Haya Hospital ... .... (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA**

(02)275555

INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT** 

This information is supplied by

department at the Ouem Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (18)53200-5, where it should always be ven-ARRIVALS

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Queen Noor 200 351 or its divers լայի շարոշակարդ rated student book Prepar focus AMMAN (J.T.) --gai bisistatory co omandat by the . Hasein Foundation and the Internation **mission on Peace a** (CPF) began Sunda Miladelphia Fiotoi Her Majesty Que t a member of th which is an indep non-political, no nganisation of politic

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AMMAN (Petra) . Unned Nations Educ Scientific and Ci Organication (UNE and the Ministr Education Saturday o a strday symposic ways to upgrade the dency of supervisor

instructors of voca paining in Jordan. The panicipanis. Structures or leachers callunal training centr the Ministry Education, will discu general vocational tr studion integration cational and academic ne programmes in 20, vocational tra

ikmales as well as in all courses for stu in the eighth, ninth enth grades. Addressing the op this Ministry bru I Secretary G bradar said that quest raining was the truth the curricult the Ministry of Educ

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AILWAY IN ) a.m. even Monda ) p.m. even Monda () a.m. even Senta () p.m. even Sunia

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PRICES

Noting that the ministry met with difficulties in the initial stages, Dr. Jaradat said that the problems facing the ministry varied, tres.

clinations.



students of the University of Applied Sciences

# Queen Noor distributes awards to ASU graduates

Majesty Queen Noor Saturday distributed diplo-. mas to 196 graduates from the Applied Sciences University (ASU). Nineteen honour students were presented with awards.

In his speech, Acting President of ASU Bashir Khadra said that the ASU, which is owned by the International Arab Company for Education and Development, was conceived during the conferences of Jordanian expatri-

Queen Noor commended ASU on its diverse educational curriculum and its varied student body, which

AMMAN (J.T.) - A three-

day preparatory conference organised by the Noor Al Russein Foundation (NHF)

and the International Com-

mission on Peace and Food

(ICPF) began Sunday at the

Her Majesty Queen Noor is a member of the ICPF,

which is an independent,

non-political, non-profit

organisation of political lead-

ers, beads of international

agencies, scientists and other

professionals from 15 na-

tions. It was founded in 1989

to redirect resources from the

armaments race into prog-

rammes to promote peace,

democracy, food security and

The preparatory conference will focus on laying the

groundwork for the ICPF's

upcoming conference on

"Human Security in the Mid-

die East," which will be held

Education, will discuss the

general vocational training

situation, integration of vo-

cational and academic train-

ing programmes in schools,

new vocational training

schemes as well as voca-

tional courses for students

in the eighth, ninth and

tenth grades.

session, Ministry of

Education Secretary General

Izzat Jaradat said that voca-

tional training was intro-

duced in the curriculum of

the Ministry of Education

towards the end of the 1970s

with a view to encouraging

students to opt for trades

according to his or her in-

Addressing the opening

employment.

Philadelphia Hotel.

comprises 29 nationalities, including students from Jordan and other countries of the Middle East, Africa, Europe and North and South America.

ASU was founded in 1991 by Saif Wadi Ramahi. Its educational curriculum includes architecture, pharmacology, ba-. sic sciences, medical sciences, economics, finance, marketing, insurance, hotel management, political science, diplomatic studies, hospital and health administration, law, graphic and interior design, art, psychology, applied social science and literature.

Its 365-dunum campus

"Human Security in the

Middle East" is a project based on the findings of ICPFs 1994 report. "Uncommon Opportunities: Agenda for Peace and Equitable Development," which was pre-

sented by Queen Noor to the

U.N. Secretary General last

The report, which summa-

rises the results of ICPF's five

year international research

programme, focuses on the linkages between peace,

democratisation, employ-

ment, food; security, transi-

tion in Eastern Europe, hu-

man development and the

It presents practical

strategies to resolve these

issues and calls for bold steps

to radically accelerate inter-

national development, max-

imising the role of the indi-

vidual as the most valuable

resource for development.

December.

environment.

focus on peace, development

features the largest athletic centre in the Middle East. which was built to Olympic specifications and can accommodate 1,000 spectators.

Queen Noor, accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Rania Abdullah, was received by President of the Board of Directors of the International Arab Company for Education and Development Haj Abdullah Abu Khadijeh, President of the ASU Board of Trustees Mohammad Abdul Hadi, the members of ASU Board of Trustees and the deans of

The project, in which Jor-

dan, Palestine, Syria, Leba-non and Egypt are participar-ing, comprises a research phase whose findings and re-commendations will be pre-

sented and discussed in the

ried out by five working groups composed of an ICPF

and a Jordanian coordinator

one member from the partici-

pating countries as well as

regional and international ex-

The five working groups are studying regional econo-

use of the military.

The research is being car-

upcoming conference.

Preparatory conference

to Press Association Higher Court of Justice Sat-Under JPA law article 46 urday ruled against a bid by states clearly that no JPA Nabil Ansari, a former member can undertake any member of the Jordan Press business or commerical job Association (JPA) to be or to act as a representative reinstated as JPA member of commercial or industrial after the association board companies. barred him from member-

Ansari reinstatement

The statement also said that article 12 of the same law stipulates that any JPA member will have her or his membership cancelled by the association board if it is proved they had violated any of the rules.

Commenting on the court's ruling, JPA President Suleiman Qudah said that the court has reaffirmed the decision taken by the JPA board after a thorough study of Mr. Ansari's case.

### Princess Sumaya graduates technology college students

AMMAN (J.T.) - Her college board of trustees Royal Highness Princess had recently decided to send Royal Highness Princess Sumaya Bint Al Hassan Saturday attended the graduation of the first batch of students from the Princess Sumaya University College for Technology and distributed certificates to the 72 graduates.

ship due to reports of rule

violation within the associa-

A court statement said that

Mr. Ansari had opened an

advertising agency in his

own name while under JPA

law an association member

should be fully employed as

a journalist and cannot

undertake any other occupa-

tion. The association board

took the right and legal

decision to cancel his name

from the list of journalists,

The graduates obtained a bachelor degree in computer science following a four-

year course of study. In an address to the graduates, the Princess said that the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) had established the college in response to the labour market's needs of graduates to handle computers and electronic engineer-

In graduating the students, the Princess said that the a group of students to conduct their postgraduate studies abroad on a scholarship

The princess congratulated the RSS on its efforts to serve the Jordanian public and urged the graduates to pursue all efforts to service their country.

Dr. Mohammad Qarioti, dean of the college, outlined the programmes offered at the college noting that the first courses at the college opened in the 1991-92 academic year and that programmes included computer science, economics, accountancy, banking, science, marketing and data manage-

# Government studying floating of vegetable prices

By Lola Keilani Special to the Jordan Times

ment is currently studying the possibility of ending its policy of determining the prices of fruits and vegetables, leaving the market forces free to decide on prices.

mic cooperation, employ-"The government department generation, food security, human resource developments concerned with the ment, peace and alternative fruit and vegetable markets are currently studying the The closing session of the matter," said Head of the meeting will be held under Marketing Agricultural the patronage of Her Majesty Organisation (AMO) Dr. Queen Noor on Tuesday July

Salem Lawzi. Dr. Lawzi declined to predict when a decision would be made, but warned that according to a preliminary study carried by the AMO, the only party that will benefit from ending the fixing

of prices are the traders. Small farmers and consumers would be the losers, he stated.

Some consumers remember the time when the govemment decided to end pric-

ing nine years ago. "Prices soared and the government withdrew its decision. Traders monopolised the market and forced

sumers." said Muna Musa,49, a housewife. She added that she would ask all consumers to boycott the fruit and vegetable market if the government went

their own prices on the con-

along with that decision. Another consumer suggested the government should not withdraw from the entire pricing process, but should at least supervise the process.

"For the time being products are abundant in the market, so prices might not increase. But once the market in the Gulf opens up again to our products, we

will starve to death," said Jamal Jadeed, a consumer. Head of the Consumer

Protection Society (CPS) Mohammad Obeidat said that 80 per cent of the Jordanian population has low purchasing power. If that decision is taken it will destroy the middle and poor classes in the country, he said.

A gradual floatation of the prices of products may be needed, Dr. Obeidat added, but starting with the less essential products. The five basic vegetables used in Jordanian diet, namely, tomatoes, potatos, garlic and onions, should not be part of such an experiment, he said. Vegetable and fruit traders. on the other hand, welcomed the news of a possi-

ble price floatation. Abu Hassan, owner of Ameen grocery store in Jabal Hussein said that fixed prices had always limited his options, because he could not buy the quality he

needed. Big farm operators say that their products are affected only by demand and supply not by fixed prices. Quality produce will be more readily available at higher prices. In this scenario, bad produce will entirely diasappear since traders are no longer bound by prices, said Abdullah

Zaben, a farmer. "The fixed prices are there to help the trader against the low power purchasing consumer who buys low quality products and pays according to the fixed prices," Mr Zaben added.

We do not mind floating the prices as long as the government does not import products from neighbouring countries," said a prominent farmer who asked not to be named.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Tilm entitled "The Horse Soldiers" at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

Krhibition in honour of Palestinian intifada victims and detainees at Abdul Bameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal

☆ Paintings by Muhannad Bushnaq at Balqa Art Gallery in

# Court rules against | Bread subsidy totals JD 60 million in '95,

AMMAN (Petra) - In a bid · distributing 430,000 tonnes to ensure bread remains of flour to bakeries in Joravailable to Jordanian citizens at reasonable prices, the Ministry of Supply is subsidising flour prices this year by JD 60 million, up from JD 54 million last year, according to a ministry statement Saturday.

Issued in observance of Arab Loaf Day, held each year to highlight the impor-tance of bread-baking across the nation, the statement said that bread will. continue to be subsidised because it benefits low and limited income groups.

At the same time and in order to ensure good quality bread for consumers, the ministry is sending out inspection teams on regular visits to various bakeries to make sure that safe processes are being followed in the baking of bread, noted the statement.

The Ministry of Supply is

dan every year though consumption in Jordan is estimated at 300,000 tonnes. the statement added.

The statement said bakeries throughout the Kingdom adhere closely to the specifications concerning the baking of bread and that the quality of Jordnian bread is considered one of the best in the Arab region The statement noted that

there were noticeable increases in the sale of flour from 12,613 tonnes in the first five months of last year to 13,377 tonnes in the same period this year.

In reference to the shortage in the amount of flour in Jordan as reported earlier by the local press, the statement said that new measures are being followed to control the sale and distribution of flour after it was revealed that flour was being illegally sold abroad. The statement said that control measures and inspections are making a difference and that the ministry has recently floated a tender for the purchase of an additional 20,000 tonnes in the next few weeks to ensure more quantities for

the market. According to Abdul Ilah Hamawi, president of the General Union of Bakeries: in Jordan, there was urgent need for the continued subsidy of flour since it is a basic food commodity.

Mr. Hawawi denied reports in the press that chemical substances were being used in the process-of baking bread.

Mr. Hamawi made note of the fact that Jordan was represented at the first international conference on bread which was held in Kansas University in the United

# 'Election of women indicates change in social attitudes'

By Cosima Hadidi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Of the ten women who won seats in the recent municipal council elections, six were memberse nof the Women Committees in their governorates, a clear indication of the success of these committees in creating a political and decision-making presence for women, said Ms. Hiam Kalimat, Director of the General Secretariat of the Jordanian National Committee for Women

(JNCW). While the JNCW is a semi-governmental policy forum on women's issues, the Women Committees in the Governorates are non-governmental executing bodies of several plans of action for women including the National Strategy for Women in Jordan.

.Upon an initiative of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, and based upon this strategy, 99 women were appointed to themunicipal councils of various governorates in 1994.

"There were three reasons for this move" said Ms. Kalimat, "to remove the psychological barriers that prevented women from running for elections, to allow communities and local councils to accept the idea of women serving on councils, and to allow women to get in touch with the issues that are important in their communities."

She added that women participated in all council planning and decisionmaking activities. Several of them prepared the 1995 budgets of their communities, and for the first time, environmental issues were put on the agenda of many councils.

During this year, JNCW

identified women who were interested in running for elections themselves or supporting other women, and held intensive workshops for them on democracy, planning, decentralisation and communication. These workshops were held in the North, South and in central Jor-A one-day seminar was

also held for the candidates during which they met with experts on campaign management; a parliamentarian was also present who shared his experiences in dealing with different constituencies. The candidates were also given advice on how to create a campaign programme and how to deal with any obstacles they may face. JNCW also helped with some of the campaign costs and transportation.

However, the real effort came from women around the women committees which include 450 members in the main committees and 8,000 members in the branches that exist in almost every settlement and village in the Kingdom.

The women in the committees worked very hard in helping female candi-dates," said Rand Hindawi, co-ordinator of the Women Committees in the Governorates. "They divided themselves into working groups, and hand-led all aspects of the campaign from calling people and the distribution of material up to making their homes or offices campaign headquarters and offering their private cars and phones for the campaign."

This consolidated effort led to a very positive out-come, which Ms. Kalimat believes is only the begin-

"Women and men's attitudes have changed with the appointment of the 99 female council members last year. In the elections, women have shown that they can overcome all obstacles and reach high i positions of decisionmaking," she said. "We have trusted their abilities to succeed, and next time I am sure that at least onethird of council members

will be women." The women council members who are also members of Women Committees include Iman Futeimat, mayor of Khirbet Wahadne, Ajloun Governorate; Najah Abu Hazeem, Balqa Governorate; Amneh Bayaydeh Karak Governorate; Ibtisam Ashoush, Karak Governorate; Fidda Hadidi, Balqa Governorate; and Aisha Abu salem, Irhid 🕽 Governorate.

However, the Women. women candidates who were not members of women's committees.

Ms. Kalimat-said that the success of women in these elections, the first time for women in Jordanian history, is in large part a result : of the initiative of Her ? Royal Highness Princess ! Basma, who not only initiated the JNCW, but was ! also instrumental in the . creation of the National: Strategy for Jordanian Women and Women's

Committees.
Ms. Hindawi will be giving a presentation at the NGO Forum of the Fourth World Conference on . Women in Beijing in September on the Jordanian experience with female municipal council members, which can serve as a model to be replicated by other countries in the re-

### Sudan levels new charge at Egypt

(Continued from page 1)

Lebanese daily Al Nahar that . the two countries "should open their borders rather than fight over an outline that the colonisers of Sudan drew up themselves." In an attempt to strengthen

its claim to Halaib, Egypt announced last week plans to set up a radio station to keep residents in touch with "the motherland" and the Egyptian government said it would improve services in the area. Gen. Bashir reiterated Sudan's right to Halaib in a mass rally in Port Sudan on Thursday, saying it was "100 per cent" Sudanese and

Khartoum would not relinquish one bit of it. Sudan has also accused Egypt of cutting off the water and medical supplies to the area 14 days ago but Egypt

has declined comment on all

these accusations. The area, which may contain oil, has always been a sore point in Egyptian-Sudanese relations, which reached a historic low after Cairo accused Sudan of plotting the attack on Mr. Mubarak and of training mili-

tants fighting to topple him. Sudan has denied all accusations and warned Egypt not to blame Khartoum for its own problems Khartoum about what it de-

with Islamic militancy. A week after the attack, Egypt's militant Gamaa Al Islamiya claimed responsibility for the attack.

Egypt has, however, continued to attack the Sudanese government and its spiritual mentor, Islamist leader Hassan Al Tourabi, but has also ruled out military action. After three weeks of verbal

warfare, Egyptian informa-tion Minister Safwat Al Sherif was quoted in government newspapers on Saturday as saying Gen. Bashir's government was unfit to rule and had lost its eligibility.

He painted a dismal picture of conditions south of the Egyptian border, blaming it on Gen. Bashir, who overthrew Sudan's democratically elected president in a 1989 military coup.

"The result has been the complete collapse of the Sudanese economy, the collapse of the infrastructure and the collapse of the components of agriculture and industry," Mr. Sherif said. Mr. Sherif also said the

Sudanese government had brought up the Halaib dispute "to disguise the collapse of the system."

Two days ago Sudan's Foreign Ministry protested to the Egyptian ambassador in

scribed as Egyptian provocations against the staff of its diplomatic mission in Cairo.

The ministry complained that Egyptian security forces had occupied a room at the residence of the ambassador. deliberately rammed cars belonging to Sudanese diplomats and insulted and harassed them and their families.

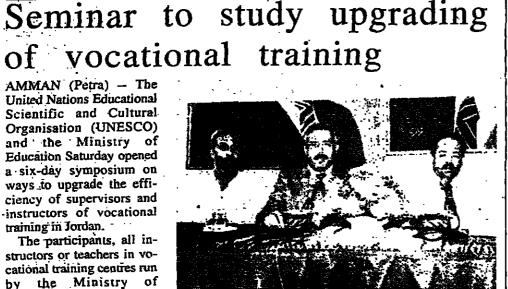
Mr. Mubarak, meanwhile ruled out outside mediation in the crisis. "There are two nations

that need no mediation because they are joined by one. blood and one body. Any dispute will be solved through bilateral means. We will arrive at a solution," Mr. Mubarak said at a press conference in Alexandria.

In Doha, Qatar, Sudan's foreign minister said that his government recently received a U.S. envoy, apparently for talks on removing Sudan from the State Department's. list of terrorist states.

Ali Osman Taha also said Sudan wants the Internation - . al Court of Justice to arbitrate its border row with Egypt. -

"Sudan seeks to extend bridges of understanding with all parties, especially America because of its political weight in the world," Mr. Taha told a news conference at the end of the three-day visit to Qatar.



Ministry of Education Secretary General Izzat Jaradat Saturday addresses the opening session of a symposium on vocational training (Petra photo)

ranging from lack of sufficient equipment at the workshops to training instructors.

Dr. Jaradat said that the supervision of vocational training courses is still at its initial stage and that it all depends on the skills of instructors working in close cooperation with the school administration and ministry

Meanwhile, the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Saturday opened a two-day workshop aimed at raising the standard and efficiency of instructors at VTC cen-

supervisors.

Dr. Ali Nasrallah, VTC director general, said that VTC centres had provided training to 99,000 people over the past 15 years of its life and that these centres had been assisted by more than 4,000 factories and other businesses which offered on-the-job training to VTC students.

The participants will review working papers dealing with field training, developing vocational training schemes, encouraging students to enter the vocational field, vocational training in remote regions and the management of training programmes.

\* Works by Khdeir Shukraji at Ab'ad Art Gallery.

☆ Paintings by Adnan Yahyah at Darat Al Funum.

This time Godziila

really dies

TOKYO (R) - This time

Godzilla is really going down

for the count. After 21 films

in which the Japanese

science-fiction monster has

died only to rise again, the

makers of his next film say it

will definitely and positively

and absolutely be the crea-

ture's last rampage across the

screen. Chief producer Shogo

Tomiyama of the Toho Com-

pany, maker of the Godzilla

films, told reporters Saturday that after 21 adventures there

were just no more new ideas

cided to put an end to the

series," Tomiyama said. "We

wanted to finish with Godzil-

la while he is still a star."

Godzilla first appeared on the screen in 1954, a giant

dinosaur awakened from a

long sleep at the bottom of

the South Pacific Ocean by

hydrogen bomb tests who

sets out to destroy Tokyo.

Tomiyama said in the dine-

saur's last appearance, God-

zilla Vs Destroyer, set for

release in December, the

monster attacks Hong Kong.

The movie, directed by Tank-

ao Ogawara, will return to

the anti-nuclear, anti-war

theme that dominated the

original Godzilla film. Since

then, Godzilla has battled ev-

ery real and imagined high-

technology weapon but has

always returned from the

dead to launch a new attack

on Japan and its modern

PARIS (R) — Tens of

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# Aide: Yeltsin is not in danger

MOSCOW (R) — The Kremlin, acting to counter intense media speculation over the health of President Boris Yeltsin, said Saturday that his condition in hospital where he is recovering from a and problem was not

"The condition (of health) hage the Russian president is with dangerous." aide Georgy Satarov was quoted by Interareat News Agency as saying.
\_\_\_\_\_\_; In a separate announcement, Mr. Yeltsin's press serin rice said the 64-year-old Russian leader was continuing to 28 work on official papers in his

-- bospital room. "The president of the Russian Federation. Boris Yeltasia, following a course of Leatment in the central ighnic-hospital, is continuing ato work," the statement said. me His work Saturday inchided sending a series of documents for ratification to the State Duma (lower Touse), among them a friendship treaty with Portugand a deal with Georgia on the status of Russian Border "Guards in the former Soviet

republic. -stiSpeculation about Mr. Yeltsin's bealth intensified -Friday after it was abruptly eltimounced he was staying in thospital next week and callise off a trip to Norway planned from July 19.

"We don't have to dramatise things around the postponement of the visit of the president to Norway," Mr. Satarov said in his comments

<sup>22</sup>Mr. Yeltsin, whose health the alleged heavy drinking have been the source of conecture for the past two and

half years, was taken to hospital with heart pains on July 11 and doctors diagnosed him as suffering from a bloodsupply problem.

Despite early assurances by the Kremlin that he was recovering, he has not been seen in public since July 11. No television crews have been allowed to film him in

nospital. In a clear move aimed at silencing media speculation that his life could be in danger, ITAR-TASS news agency released a photograph of him late Friday, showing him sitting at a desk in a shortsleeved sports shirt with four

telephones nearby. Mr. Yeltsin's top aide Viktor Ilyushin was quoted by TASS Friday as saying the strain of office was taking its

He mentioned specifically the Chechenya conflict, the Budennovsk hostage seizure in June and clashes with the hostile Duma where Communists tried to launch impeachment moves.

But Mr. Ilyushin said that while Mr. Yeltsin was "on the mend", his doctors had firmly demanded that he stay in hospital." He has cancelled all engagements until July₃ 24.

Mr. Yeltsin, president of the vast country of 150 million people since 1991, faces re-election in June 1996, though he might now choose

not to run again. His bout of ill health comes at an awkward moment for the pro-Yeltsin camp with Russia — beset by economic problems, a bitter conflict in Chechenya and political intrigue - preparing for a crucial parliamentary election on

Mr. Yeltsin, who fixed the election date Friday in a bedside decree, is eager to see a Duma returned that is much less hostile to his policies than the current one which bristles with Communist, ultranationalist and Agrarian

Opposition party faction leaders began girding themselves for the campaign within minutes of the date being

Ultranationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky, Grigory Yavlinsky, head of the liberal Yabloko Faction, and Mikhail Lapshin, who leads the Agrarian Party faction, were among leading politi-cians who announced they would work on their preelection strategy throughout

Meanwhile, Russia's first lady made a rare public appearance Friday and launched a sharp attack on the press, saying some journalists had acted like sadists in the way they had covered President Yeltsin's health prob-

Naina Yeltsin, speaking to journalists during a visit to a children's psychiatric hospital, complained of "cock-andbull stories" written about the president.

"If he has flu, they say he cannot work, if he stumbles, they say he cannot work, she declared.

"I cannot call it anything other than simple verbal sadism," the first lady, who was dressed in a black and white checked suit, said.

Mrs. Yeltsin said she had visited the president and he was "fine". "I arrived first thing and they had put him to work at a table signing documents," she said.

The first lady, who almost never speaks to the press, made a wide-ranging critique of the Russian press, complaining particularly about an article in the controversial daily Moskosvski Komsomolets Thursday.

The front-page report by Natalya Timakov bore the "the president is headline more alive than...", a play on a Russian phrase meaning he is more dead than alive.

The report said it was "completely incomprehensible" that Mr. Yeltsin's schedule had not been changed. "Such illnesses cannot be cured in a week," it said.

"I read the article and thought 'how could a woman write such words? How would she feel if someone in her family was sick and people were saying things like that?" Mrs. Yeltsin said. She said she did not like

talking to the press. "They tell such cock-and-bull stories it is hard to believe." She stressed how hard Mr. Yeltsin's job was, saying he

"He is a human being, so why can't people treat him liké one? Suddenly, as president, apparently he has to become a metal robot," she

had not had a holiday for four

"I don't envy the person who takes the president's seat. It is a hard life," she



Commuters stand before displays at a subway station showing members of the Aum Supreme Truth cult wanted for the nerve-gas attack that

the Tokyo subway (AFP photo)

### Japan arrests 21 more cult members police have arrested Aum

TOKYO (R) — Japanese police resumed raids Saturday on a doomsday cult linked to Tokyo's poison-gas attacks and arrested 21 sect members alleged to be in-volved in the illegal manufacture of Soviet-type automatic

In a new sign of the lethal arsenal the Aum Shinri Kyo (Supreme Truth Sect) was building up in its alleged plans to topple the govern-ment, police said the arrested sect members planned to produce more than 1,000 automatic rifles.

The rifles were modelled on the famed Soviet AK-74. designs of the weapon used in its manufacture in the former Soviet Union were the basis for the weapons production. Over the past two months.

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) -

Forty people, including for-

mer military ruler Gen.

Olusegun Obasanjo, were

convicted in a coup plot trial

that has riveted Nigerians for

the last six weeks, the gov-

The secret trials -- conde-

mned by governments and

human-rights organisations

ernment has announced.

leader Shoko Asahara and dozens of his followers for involvement in the March 20 sarin nerve-gas attack on the Tokyo subway system that killed 11 people and injured thousands. A police spokesman said the latest raids, which started

shortly after dawn, were concentrated on Aum's headquarters in the village of Kamikuishiki near Mount Fuji, southwest of Tokyo. Police found several fully-

functional rifles and thousands of parts and hundreds of bullets in two arms factories at the compound.

Investigators believe the weapons programme was controlled by Aum science chief Hideo Murai, who was stabbed to death outside the

on June 6, after the govern-ment alleged it had foiled a

coup attempt planned for

March against military ruler

Gen. Sani Abacha, who took

power in a bloodless coup in

Critics have said there was

no coup plot and that Gen.

Abacha simply wanted an ex-cuse to round up opponents

November 1993.

sect's Tokyo office earlier this year by an ultranationalist. They said the weapons

programme started 18 months ago with the purchase of rifle drawings and specialised machinery needed to make parts for the weapon. Police said the cult spent nearly \$10 million in buying

specialised computer-run machinery needed to make high-class weapons. They said judging from the gun parts found, the weapons programme was in its final

stages before mass production began. Police have said the sect planned to bring down the

ously denied Thursday.

Japanese government with a campaign of terror that would leave it in control of Thousands pack the country.

"We're extremely con-

cerned that they may be sent-

enced to death and hastily

executed, as has happened

twice in the past following an

alleged coup plot in 1986 and

a coup attempt in 1990," said

Melissa Crow, spokeswoman

for the Washington-based

Human Rights Watch-Africa.

Nigerians expect that those

whose death sentences, are

confirmed will be executed

before their identified are re-

vealed. More than 115 people

were executed by firing squad

in connection with the last

three coup trials in Nigeria.

### Jarre's concert for tolerance 40 sentenced in Nigerian coup plot trial

thousands of fans thronged central Paris Friday for an outdoor "concert for tolerance" at the Eiffel Tower by French rock musician Jean-Michel Jarre, staged by the U.N. cultural agency UN-ESCO. Organisers expected up to 800,000 young people to watch the late-night soundand-light show on France's Bastille Day national holiday, which involved illumi-nating the Eiffel Tower with laser beams and fireworks atnid a multi-media concert with musicians from France. Algeria, Cameroon and the Caribbean. "This concert for tolerance is a cry against all forms of discrimination and intolerance, and a cry against indifference," said French Culture Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy, one of the event's sponsors. "When you look at what is happening today in Bosnia, Algeria or Chechenya, it is urgent to get more tolerance out there into the streets," Jarre said. It was the first of a series of concerts around the world commissioned by the Paris-based UNESCO as part of the United Nations Year for Toler-

# **U.S.** heat wave death toll hits 31

NEW YORK (AP) - An oppressive heat wave blamed fer 31 deaths in the aidwest suffocated the east, sending people to penguin exhibits and tanning salons in search of relief. Many people died in

nomes without air conditioning. A 68-year-old man who had just bought a fan and refused offers to move was found dead in his Kahoka. \*lissouri, house.

"It was 115 degrees (45 degrees Celsius) in there, said Clark County, Missouri, zoroner Edwin Wilson. "You would walk into that house and then walk outside, and it was like being in air conditioning outside.

The National Weather Service blamed the extreme heat čá a high pressure system that was slowly moving east from the western great plains. Forecasters said the heat wave would last through the weekend.

,, "All you want to do is take your clothes off," said Melis-a, Dougherty, a 33-year-old New York marketing researeger as she walked to work in Mack stockings and an olive asgen suit and the tempera-Fire in the mid-90s l'ahrenheit (35 degrees Cel-

Record highs included 102 (39 C) in Green Bay, Wisonsin, 100 F (38 C) in Boston and 96 F (35 C) in Port-

land, Maine. New York City hit its hottest day of the year at 98 degrees F.

Temperatures soared to 100 F (38 C) at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, equaling the previous record for the date, set in

Residents of Chattanooga,

Tennessee, opened fire hydrants to help youngsters cool off and the Tennessee Valley Authority churned out electricity at a record pace for a third consecutive day as people kept their air conditioners

In Washington, President Bill Clinton gave a speech in the sunny courtyard of CIA Headquarters, and noted that some in the crowd had sought refuge in the shade.

at the Central Intelligence Agency that if we were giving intelligence awards today, they would go to the people back there under the trees, Mr. Clinton said.

Sixteen of 53 train cars derailed in Athens, Ohio, about 70 miles (112 kilometres) southeast of Columbus, because temperatures in the 90s Fahrenheit (30s Celsius) caused the track to shift 14 inches (35.5 cms).

Several hundred residents were evacuated briefly because one of the cars leaked a small amount of dimethylformamide, a combustible sol-

vent, said Conrail spokeswoman Christine Wagner. The simmering weather claimed seven lives Friday in Missouri, where four people died earlier in the week, and throughout the midwest, numerous other people

heat and humidity. The weather was the prime suspect in seven deaths in the Milwaukee area and four more Chicagoans died Friday, bringing the toll there to

sought treatment from the

oppressive combination of

Kentucky and Iowa authorities each reported two heat-related deaths while officials in Texas, Nebraska and Indiana each reported

Two of Chicago's victims were 3-year-old boys accidentally locked in a van in 100-degree Fahrenheit (38degree Celsius) weather for an hour when a day-care worker took other children inside after a field trip to a mall, authorities said.

A neighbour had a simple explanation for the death of a 68-year-old woman whose body was found in her Kansas City, Mo., home Thursday. "She was poor. She

couldn't afford a fan or air conditioning. And it got really hot," the neighbour said. 'That's all there is to tell. She died. There are a lot of others in similar situations out

# Clinton urges CIA

LANGLEY, Va. (R) — President Bill Clinton, on a scandal.

Clinton said.

February 1994 as a traitor who had sold vital U.S. secrets to Moscow for nine

"As we guard against a repeat of the Ames episode. we have to be careful not to produce a culture so riskaverse that case officers refuse to take chances and analysts are afraid to speak their minds," the president said.

### worldwide — involved 51 to silence them. military and civilian suspects The .secrecy surrounding and concluded Friday..... the trials has outraged There had been many unhuman-rights monitors. A delegation of monitors from confirmed reports, that some Commonwealth nations is currently in Nigeria to in-

of the suspects had already been sentenced and executed, as has been the case in some past coup trials. The secret tribunal began

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (R)

- Powerful House of Repre-

sentatives Speaker Newt

Gingrich called for a national

referendum on legalising

drugs in a sweeping speech to

fellow Republicans Friday

that criticised the Clinton

administration as the most

incompentent in U.S. his-

The Georgia congressman.

who has not ruled out a bid

for his party's presidential nomination, was the first

speaker among eight pres-

idential candidates to address

the Republican National

committee summer meeting.

In the most dramatic initia-

tive by the first Republican

speaker of the House in 40

years, Mr. Gingrich called for

a national vote on legalising

Gingrichurges national drug referendum Top White House drug fighter Lee Brown called a drug legalisation referendum

vestigate abuse allegations.

which the government vigor-

preposterous, the ultimate in defeatism. "Drug abuse is an American crisis, not a partisan political opportunity... The political hypocrisy of axing effective anti-drug measures and then suggesting the defeatist alternative of legalisation is apparent enough.

Mr. Brown said in a written statement. Mr. Gingrich's address in Philadelphia outlined a conservative agenda that was against welfare dpendence. touched on crime and included an appeal for a balanced budget that preserves the Medicare health programme for the elderly and the social security retirement

programme. Mr. Gingrich also attacked Mr. Clinton and urged the death penalty for drug importers and covert military training for besieged Bosnians.

The conservative leader propopsed that people caught with drugs be required to serve two days of public service a week for a year. Those who miss a day of service should be sentenced to five years in prison, he added. "Second, we ought to say

flatly - you import a commercial quantity of drugs for the purpose of destroying our children, you will be killed," said Mr. Gingrich. He also criticised the Clin-

ton administration.

"We have the least competent, the least adult, the least structured, the least disciplined, and least responsible administration, I think, probably in our country's history." said Mr. Gingrich, who is not known for understatement.

hiological accord.

### China, Russia accused of biological arms violations on it compliance with the

AČDA director John

Holum denied in an interview

with the paper that the admi-

nistration had attempted to suppress the publication of its conclusions about the Russian compliance. He said the language in the unclassified version was "set-

ticd long before that (Republican) legislation appeared. the paper reported. The paper said he added that "we are not satisfied"

with Moscow's claim that its, illicit biological warfare efforts have ceased.

The report said that in the Russian biological warfare programme "some research and development facilities are being deactivated and many have taken severe personnel and funding cuts,

"However, some facilities, in addition to being engaged in legitimate activity, may be maintaining the capability to produce biological warfare agents.

The U.S. report also said Russia had failed to provide the United Nations with accurate and complete data,

### Filipinos meet their portaloo

ance, he said.

MANILA (AFP) - A "disposable mini-pee toilet" enabling drivers caught in traffic jams to relieve themselves in the privacy of their own car has come on stream in the Philippines. The ads for the Jingle Bag proclaim: You can have pees of mind in the most unlikeliest places." The campaign, launched Saturday, says the bag can be used by both sexes and once used, the urine inside turns into a gel which can be easily disposed of. "Jingle" is a Filipino slang term for urination.

### Robbers who set fire to cash jailed

LONDON (R) - Three thickes who set fire to a fortune when bungling what would have been Britain's biggest cash robbery have been jailed for up to 12 years. They attacked a security van containing £11 million (\$17.47 million). But the raid in 1994 went wrong after the gang burned a hole in the van's side and £1.5 million (\$2.38 million) went up in flames. Judge David Griffiths, sentencing the trio Thursday at a court in Winchester, southern England, told them: "If successful, you three would have been rich men." he said that stealing such a huge sum "would have meant none of you would have had to do a day's work for the rest of your lives."

## China floods turn fields into lakes

PAIKOU COUNTY, China (R) - In picture postcard green fields, Chinese farmers were harvesting rice. A short distance away, neighbours' fields and their crops have disappeared under a giant

Ten days after its heaviest rains in 100 years, much of Paikou County in floodbattered province lay under water Saturday, 18,000 peoare forced from their homes. The floods have left three copie dead in Paikou County

and caused 200 million yuan

(\$24 million) in economic los-More than 60 per cent of the county is under water and 1.000 houses have been ruined, with thousands swamped and 8,000 tonnes of

Underlining the extent of recent flood damage in Paikou and across swathes of south and central China, Vice Premier Jiang Chunyun calied on officials to tend victims and ensure sufficient food,

rice destroyed, local officials

clothing and shelter. Local officials must deliver relief and help farmers with imancial burdens. "Those who add to such burdens Sould be disciplined, Minhua News Agency quoted

him as saying. Millions of people have been hurt by the floods. Human has been hardest hit with more than 400 people killed and 527 missing.

The floods in south and

central China and widespread drought in the north have raised fears in Beijing for this year's harvests. officials say.

In Paikou, flood waters stretch as far as the eye can see, with treetops, the tips of telegraph poles and the second storeys of homes peeping above the surface. Only boats move on the artificial lake as residents re-

turn to rescue their belongings from submerged homes. Our one-storey house was toppled by the floods," said Chen Chunxi, 58, as he puffed at a cigarette in the rattan shelter he shares with several

is still standing but may col-lapse when the waters recede," Chen said. "The last time this happened was in 1954," he said.

"Our new two-storey home

"I lived in a straw house then and it was toppled by Like many others, Chen had no property insurance

and will have to find the money to rebuild himself. "We left on the morning of July 5, when the water was up to our knees." Chen Fenghua, a 35-year-old mother of

two, said. "There was no time to bring our belongings," she says. "Our one-storey home is completely submerged now. So are our rice fields, so we have lost the harvest."

Officials said torrential

rains fell on Paikou county

and for five days from July 1 The unprecedented rainfall and a burst river dike were mainly to blame for the scale of the flooding, said local official Yang Fachun as his small boat weaved through tree tops.

It would take until the end of July to pump all the floodwater into a nearby riv-

er. Yang said. Neglect of China's dikes is being widely blamed for the severity of this year's flood-

Paikou officials say that under economic reforms allowing farmers to grow produce for their own profit. many have lost interest in collective water projects that eat their time.

"In the days of Chairman Mao (Tsetung), the local government could set a date and thousands would go to do collective projects, for no money. Most of the big waterwork projects were done in that era," one official

"Now, you have to pay farmers to do it," he said. "It is more difficult. We should pay more attention to this."

> China quake toll rises to 5

Meanwhile the death toll from an earthquake that rocked southwestern China has risen to five with 87 injured, some seriously. for 48 hours on June 22-23 Xinhua said Saturday.

# to recover from spy scandal

morale-boosting visit to CIA Headquarters, said Friday the U.S. intelligence community must not be paralysed by fear of failure in the wake of the Aldrich Ames spy-

"It's important that we don't minimise the damage that Ames did or the changes that need to be made to prevent future scandals." Mr. Clinton told employees of the embattled Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), who gathered on the lawn in front of its headquarters in Virginia on an unusually hot

"Aldridge Ames was a terrible exception to a proud tradition of service," Mr.

He referred to the veteran CIA employee unmasked in years, making a mockery of CIA security measures.

sentence but the CIA is still struggling to recover from the damage he caused.

WASHINGTON (AFP) — A

U:S. government report ac-

cused China of conducting

### drugs or a tough policy on drugs. He told reporters a Ames is now serving a life vote would be 80 per cent to 20 per cent against legalisa-

the paper reported. The unclassified version

illicit work in the 1980s on out China's biological warbiological or toxin weapons fare programme than what and said it is "highly probable" China is still violating a to Congress last year. treaty concerning them.

A classified version of the report also accused Russia of such violations, according to

a report in the Washington Post newspaper Saturday. The allegations pertain to the development, stockpiling or production of such arms as proscribed by the international 1972 Biological and

Toxin Weapons Convention. President Bill Clinton signed the report Thursday drafted by U.S. intelligence agencies that said both China and Russia had violated agreement, the paper said. The accusations came in a

report on treaty violations

that the administration is re-

quired to file annually with Congress in both a classified and unclassified form. The unclassified version was released late Friday by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, but the allegation about Russia was

dropped from that version.

resolution, the paper quoted carried stronger language ab-

the administration reported The administration only said then that "the United States believes that it is highly probable that China has not eliminated its BW programme," since declaring, it

would adhere to the treaty in 1984, the newspaper said. The paper quoted an un-named U.S. official as saying the administration used language with a "harder edge" on China this year as a means to express U.S. displeasure with Beijing's refusal to respond to previous complaints

about the programme. China has made "some effort to reduce activities of concern," the official said. but it is continuing to conduct biological research for offensive military purposes at two sites that are controlled by

of its past germ weapons

work to the United Nations.

as is required under a U.N.

'the Chinese military. China has also still not given an accurate accounting

the official as saying.
The report against China

comes at a time when Sino-U.S. tensions have been on the rise. Washington's approval of an entry visa for Taiwan's president to make a personal trip to the United States in June earned Beijing's consternation. The detention of Chinese-

American human rights activ-

ist Harry Wu in China in June

as well as Beijing's refusal to

discuss alleged sales of mis-

siles and missile technology to Pakistan and Iran has angered Washington. The report also said "it is unclear whether Beijing has broken off its contact with elements" in the Pakistani scientific circles who work on that nation's nuclear weapons

programme. The paper reported that the administration officials engaged in intense debate to state its "finding" that Russia violated the treaty only in the

classified version. Russian compliance is at the centre of a controversy. with some Republican lawmakers recently seeking to condition U.S. aid to Russia

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NDAY, JUNE 16

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LONDON ST fortune when would have been jailed for an and They anacked containing and in 1994 went where rang burned 192.38 million open fiths, sentencial Thursday at chester.

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THE LAST BULL ENTERS ARENA: The last bull rushes into the arena in Pampiona. A 22-year-old U.S. tourist was killed during the running of the bulls, the first casualty in 15 years of the traditional festival. Just a day after a buil fatally gored the 22-year-old American at the Pampiona bull-run, hundreds of runners gathered Friday for the last of the festival's eight daily sprints down a cordoned route to the builring. Instead of shouts of bravado,

however, the runners stared silently or spoke philosop about the bull-run, keenly aware of the dangers of shing ahead of six fighting buils. The death apparently conviced some people to skip the last run of the festival. While typically about 1,500 people take part each day, several hundred fewer people showed up for Friday's dash (AFP photo)

## Sri Lankan troops consolidate in seized areas

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lankan troops Saturday battles in the northern Jaffna began consolidating in areas peninsula. they seized from separatist Tamil guerrillas as the death toll among combatants in a army losses were likely to be rebel counterattack rose to at 26, defence sources said, least 82, officials said.

least 20 security personnel, the rebel Liberation Tigers of including the pilot of a Tamil Eelam (LTTE). downed attack aircraft, were

95 wounded in Friday's fierce

Another six soldiers\_were yet to be accounted for and adding that troops faced a The military here said at force of 500 to 600 fighters of

"Our troops did very well. confirmed killed and another They put up a good fight in



Camouflaged soldiers patrol in an armoured jeep, in an area brought under military control during the current offensive against Tamil Tiger guerrillas in the north. There have been beavy loss of life during the offensive with civilians taking the brunt of aerial attacks (AFP photo)

the face of such a large teroutside Jaffna two days ago, rorist concentration," militapparently fearing a military ary spokesman Sarath Munaassault on the heavily built-

singhe said. He said a rebel radio transmission intercepted by the military said at least 62 LTTE men, including members of the rebel suicide squad known as Black Tigers, were killed in close quarter battles, which lasted nearly 10 hours.

By Saturday, thousands of troops had re-established their lines and continued a search for Tiger guerrillas in dozens of villages brought under military control following the current offensive, begun Sunday.

"We are consolidating. Defences have been further strengthened. Search, and clear operations are going on in the area street-by-street," Brig. Munasinghe said. The army's consolidation

of the 78-square-kilometre area in the Jaffna peninsula came a day after the rebels launched their biggest counteroffensive since the military operation began. Rebels on Friday shot

down an airforce fighters that was giving cover to ground troops when rebels staged two pre-dawn raids on newlyestablished defence lines. The pilot was killed in-

stantly when the plane was brought down by a rebel surface-to-air missile, officials said. At least 55 security person-

nel have been killed since the offensive was launched Sun-The rebel onslaught was its

most ferocious resistance to the push by government troops, who are just six kilometres away from the northern capital of Jaffna, where the LTTE has its head-

The LTTE had also destroyed a 30-metre bridge just - left the liberated areas.

up Jaffna town.

10,000 soldiers.

placed.

Tamils.

In the first five days of the

military strike, the LTTE had

barely offered any resistance

to the advance by some

An estimated 145 civilians

were killed and thousands

wounded in the military adv-

ance since Sunday, according

to officials and civilians who

arrived here after fleeing the

peninsula. Some 300,000

Tamil civilians were also dis-

A total of 554 security per-

sonnel have been killed since

the LTTE withdrew from six

months of peace talks on

April 19 to resume its guerril-

la campaign for a separate

state in the northeast for Sri

Lanka's two million minority

The military claims killing

nearly 600 rebels in the same

period but the figure is dis-puted by the LTTE, which

says that fewer cadres had

The Sri Lankan govern-

ment is rushing in food,

medicine, stamps, aerogram-

photographers to areas of the

northern Jaffna peninsula

"liberated" by its army, a

Housing Minister Nimal

Siripala De Silva said Friday

he had visited most of the

area to find out to what ex-

tent civil administration

could be reestablished after

Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Eelam separatist guerrillas

had been cleared from the

priority is the distribution of food," Mr. De Silva told a

news conference, adding that

part of the population" had

"The most important

minister has said.

# Teenager survives 16 days under Seoul store rubble

SEOUL (R) - A 19-year-old - check if someone might be in shop assistant was miraculously pulled from the rubble of a collapsed Seoul departsurviving 16 days without

food or fresh water. One of her first reactions when rescuers broke through to her in the rubble where over 300 died was embarrass-

Rescuer Ahn Kyung-Wook told reporters that the woman, Park Seung-Hyun, had asked him not to shine a torch on her.

"Don't shine the light on me. I'm embarrassed, I'm not wearing anything. Please get me some clothes," said Park, who worked in the children's clothing section of the illfated Sampoong. Department Rescuers dug frantically with their hands to get to

Park, who had made a weak and plaintive cry to attract the attention of rescuers using heavy machinery to clear the site of South Korea's worst peacetime disaster.

'We were clearing away the concrete when suddenly we saw a hole. We stopped all work because we had to

that hole," the rescue official

He said the rescue team ment store Saturday after dug into the debris for help in a small voice," the rescue official said.

"Someone answered 'yes." A woman called for help in a small voice," the rescue official said. "I asked her name, and she

answered in a clear voice. She asked what day it was and said she wanted water," he said. Only about 20 minutes la-

ter after frantic efforts by a small army of volunteers she was out, swathed in blanket and her face wrapped in a red towel to protect her eyes. On admission to nearby St.

Mary's Hospital, one of the first to welcome her back from the brink of death was Yoo Ji-Hwan, who is making remarkable recovery at the same bospital after being rescued Tuesday after 12 days of entombment. Television pictures showed

the two holding hands, Yoo leaning over to whisper to Park.

Park's face was covered by an oxygen mask and

eyeshades. Doctors lifted her mask so that she could reply, smiling shyly as she

"She told me she had no food and water, not even rain water. It's amazing," hospital head Kim In-Chol told state television. Park was badly dehydrated but otherwise in fairly good condition.

Park was reunited at the hospital with her stunned parents, who could scarcely believe her safe delivery from the store ruins where 332 people are still posted as mis-

The official death toll so far stands at 306, making it the worst disaster in the peacetime history of South

"I don't know if this is real or a dream," said her father Fark Jae-Won. "Many days had passed, but I never gave up hope. I never thought of my daughter being dead," he

"It's a miracle," said her mother Koh Soon-Young. Rescuers had earlier believed there was another survivor near Park, but their

hopes were dashed when in-

stead a dead body was retrieved from the area later Saturday.

The rescue was staged underneath a collapsed elevator shaft, the same area wher two long-term survivors have already been dug out -Yoo last Tuesday and parttime shop assistant Choi Myong-Sok last Sunday.

Choi shouted with joy as he watched television pictures of Park being pulled from the rubble.

"Hey, that's Seung-Hyun who worked in the children's department," said a delighted Choi, who is well on the way to a full recovery from his nine-and-a-half-day

At the Sampoong site, Park's rescue boosted the frail hopes of relatives who are still waiting for news of their loved ones after the June 29 disaster.

"Let's pray for more miracles," said one grimly.

As days go by, hopes for my daughter fade, but Park!s rescue makes my heart heat. again. I wish a miracle can happen to my daughter." a mother told reporters.

## Kashmiris extend hostages deadline by 2 days

SRINAGAR, India (R) — Kashmiri militants holding five Western hostages said Saturday they had extended the deadline to execute their captives by two days, until Monday, following appeals by Amnesty International.

The little-known Al Faran oup, in a written statement to Reuters in Srinagar, said the hostages would be killed if India does not release jailed Muslim militants by

"Al Faran. has decided to extend the deadline to kill the hostages by two days," it said hours after releasing a picture of the two Britons, an American, a German and a Norwegian they abducted in separate incidents last week.

The picture showed the five captives squatting in a row in front of snowcapped Himalayan Mountains, surrounded by eight partially masked gunmen training their Kalashnikovs on them.

The statement said the London-based human rights group and several unnamed Western governments had appealed for the release of the hostages.

"Where were these saviours of human rights when thousands of Kashmiris were being killed by Indian troops and their human rights were being violated," Al Faran asked.

It had earlier threatened to kill the hostages by Saturday

evening if India did not free the group's jailed colleagues

The female partners of the Westerners held by the Kashmiri separatist abductors appealed afresh Saturday for the freedom of the five kidnapped men and said the guerrilla group would be held responsible for their safety.

The appeal to the Al Faran roup came as the clock was ticking away to the Saturday evening deadline.

## Poll: Hong Kong wants independence or link with U.K.

HONG KONG (AFP) -Most people in Hong Kong would prefer independence,

or to maintain the current link with Britain, rather than to become subjects of China in 1997, a poll showed Satur-

Just over half of the 647 people surveyed by the Hong Kong 1997 Transition Project of the Baptist University here, said they would prefer either independence, to remaintain a protective affiliation with Britain rather than to join China.

China will resume sovereignty in Hong Kong in 1997 after 150 years of British

Michael DeGolyer, director of the project, said the proportion preferring either

independence or a continued link with Britain had remained constant at around 51-52 per cent since February 1993 when the project first in Hong Kong cannot be considered 'patriotic' by the standards Beijing uses to define patriotic," Mr. DeGolyer

In recent years, China has been exhorting "patriotism" among the six-million mainly ethnic Chinese in the territory in order to effect a smooth transfer of sovereign-

Mr. DeGolyer said the wrangling between Beijing Hong Kong Chinese and 12 on over the n "A good half of the people , two years concerning Gov-

ernor Chris Patten's unilateral democratic reforms in the territory could have been the reason for the loss of confidence in the future in the public mind.

The survey also showed that only 20 per cent of respondents regarded themselves to be Chinese, while 36 per cent think of themselves as Hong Kongers, 33 per cent referred to themselves as Hone Kone Brit-

## Maverick Russian general to run for parliament

TULA, Russia (AP) — Alexander Lebed, one of Russia's most popular generals, who quit the army last month after a feud with his superiors, said Friday he would run for a seat in Russia's parliament

this fall. Gen. Lebed announced his decision at a meeting with voters in Tula, an industrial town some 200 kilometres (124 miles) south of Moscow, where he once served as an airborne division commander, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported.

fragile peace process could collapse if thousands more

U.N. peacekeepers were not

deployed soon. Mr. Dos Santos said at a

function in honour of the U.N. secretary-general Friday night that the world body

played a crucial role in the

peace process aimed at en-

ding Africa's longest-running

"I'd like to ask the

secretary-general for his per-

sonal emphasis on the de-

ployment by the end of Au-

gust of the promised U.N. blue helmets," he said.

The implementation of the

peace accord signed last

November between the

Angolan government and Jonas Savimbi's UNITA re-

bels is running five months behind schedule and only

2,000 of the planned 7,600

blue-helmeted U.N. soldiers

Dr. Ghali, on the second

day of a visit to asses the

peace agreement was due to

fly to Bailundo in the central

highlands Saturday to meet

Mr. Savimbi, who diplomats

said had refused to go to the

capital for security reasons.

U.N. peacekeepers had to be

deployed soon to help quar-

ter UNITA soldiers in camps

during the demobilisation

phase of the peace agree-

Mr. Dos Santos said the

have been deployed.

conflict.

spring's presidential race, in which he is widely considered a possible contestant.

A nationalist with a ferocious scowl and deep, rumbling voice, Gen. Lebed, 44, has seized the limelight by lambasting incompetence and corruption among top army brass. He has also criticised the handling of the war in Chechenya.

His reputation as a tough commander and his out-

Gen. Lebed refused to say whether he would enter next popular among troops, and his acid remarks about Defence Minister Pavel Grachev and President Boris Yeltsin have made him a media star. He once called Mr. Yeltsin

"a minus" for Russia. Gen. Lebed submitted his resignation in May after Gen. Grachev ordered him to sharply reduce the 14th Army, which he headed. The army ended a civil war in the breakaway Trans-Dniester region of Moldova, a former Soviet republic, and made

Gen. Lebed a national hero. After Mr. Yeltsin accepted the resignation last month. Gen. Lebed immediately began a political career, taking up the post of deputy chairman of the Congress of Russian Communities, a minor nationalist party dedicated to protecting the 25 million ethnic Russians in neighbouring countries that were once

part of the Soviet Union Many observers predicted. the party could do well with ' Gen. Lebed in its ranks.

## Burmese military junta still wants key role

RANGOON (R) — Burma's ruling military Saturday again bled country, but any position should be acceptable to stressed the vital role it says it must play in the country's future while democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi said the army's position must be acceptable to the people.

An article published Saturday in the state-run New Light of Myanmar newspaper, widely regarded as an organ of the military government, reiterated the armed forces desire to hold a central role in any future govern-

forces) responsibilities are not over with the writing of a firm constitution," the article said. "Translating a document into deeds might not be so easy all the time. That is why the Tatmadaw has asked for a role in future Myanma (Burmese) political lead-

ership. A new constitution has been in the works for years and is being written by a group of delegates, mostly handpicked by the military. One of its objectives calls for the armed forces to keep a "leading role" in future national politics.

Another section of the new charter rules out Aung San Suu Kyi ever becoming leader of her country because she is married to a foreigner.

Aung San Suu Kyi, who has previously criticised the constitution and the way it is being written, said late Friday she thought the military. and all groups, should have a role in the future of the trou-

In an interview with Reuters, the Nobel Peace laureate, who says she has been greatly influenced by her father, national hero General Aung San, said she has always favoured a dialogue with the military to bring about a peaceful transition to

"I've always asked for dia-logue, but they considered that confrontation," she said. "If they really have the best "The Tatmadaw (armed interests of the nation in mind they should be more conciliatory, they should be willing to make some moves.

"The military should play a role in Burma but it should be acceptable to the people," she said.

The 50-year-old democracy leader, who was unconditionally released from six years of house arrest Monday, said she has become more mature in her dealings with people like the military. She said she realises now is

the time for dialogue and she wants to find a way for both sides to compromise for the best of the country. 'We have to move with the

circumstances and times, and change tactics and actions accordingly" she said when asked if she planned to change her previous style of speaking at large railies to drum up support for demo-

"But I don't think the public can ever be ignored," she said. "It's very important I keep in touch with them and their mood." Ms. Suu Kyi was placed

1989, for "endangering the state" after making outspoken attacks on the military government. She said she began her quest for democracy after the killings began in 1988 when thousands of people were kil-

led or imprisoned during a

under house arrest in July,

brutal military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstra-"I think it was when the shooting started in August,' Ms. Suu Kyi said when asked when she decided to take up politics, "because I did not think this was a healthy sys-

Since her release Monday. Ms. Suu Kyi has met with fellow democracy campaigners including recently re-leased Tin Oo and Kyi Maung, two senior members of the National League for Democracy party they found

in 1988. The National League for Democracy swept elections in 1990, taking 392 of the 485 contested seats, but the military never recognised the election result.

Ms. Suu Kyi's release still has not been announced in the official Burmese media, although the article Saturday mentioned that both Tin Oo and Kyi Maung had been set free as part of a section explaining the government's moves for national reconsolidation.

Ms. Suu Kvi said Japan

and other countries should not hurry to resume aid to Burma, the Yomiuri Shimbun said in a report published

Saturday.

In an interview with the daily Friday at her residence in Rangoon, the Nobel laureate said countries should resume their aid after "they see that there is a genuine movement toward reconciliation and a truly democratic system

of government."
She called on the international community not to overrate the military junta's decision to release her. "All those who are in-

terested in democratic development in Burma should wait and see what is going to happen before they decide to change their tactics," she

"Nothing has changed yet,

apart from my release," she Tokyo welcomed Monday's release of Ms. Suu Kyi by announcing plans to resume its yen loans to Burma for the first time since 1988,

when the military junta took

power in a coup. Officials did

not say when the loans would Before 1988, Burma received about 10 billion yen (\$115 million) annually in

official grant aid from Japan. Jiji Press said Saturday that Japan's Foreign Minister Yohei Kono was considering a visit to Burma as early as August to meet Burmese government officials and unveil plans to resume yen

### Delays may reverse Angolan peace — Dos Santos LUANDA (R) — Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos has told U.N. chief Boutros Ghali the country's



U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali (left) and Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos raise their glasses to drink a toast to

UNITA officials said they hoped Dr. Ghaii's visit would

resulting in its possible rever-sal," Mr. Dos Santos said. The U.N. chief said after arriving in Angola from Rwanda that the nearly 20 years of conflict which killed more than 500,000 people and divided the Angolan peo-

"Unless these aspects are

immediately addressed, even

further delay may interrupt

the continuum of the process

ple were now over.

"I'm very happy that the conflict that divided this country is over and reconciliation and the construction of peace will serve as an example in other countries at war in all of Africa and the rest of the world," he told

help speed up the deploy-ment of the U.N. peacekeepers.

Delegations from the two sides met Thursday to discuss the numerous violations of the ceasefire since the peace accord was signed in Lusaka last November.

A UNITA official said the government had requested Mr. Savimbi not to travel to the capital Luanda to meet the U.N. chief.

"We are not to engage in political activities as an official party until there is the global incorporation of the two armies — Dr. Savimbi

would be asked to speak in public, and that could be: construed as political," the official said.

peace and democracy at a dinner held at the

presidential residence in Luanda (AFP photo)

Dr. Ghali is also due to visit the battered central highlands city of Huambo, UNITA's headquarters until it was evacuated under government siege last year, and the coastal port of Lobito, logistics centre for U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The government and UN-ITA have been at war virtually since independence from Portugal in 1975. A previous accord collapsed after UN-ITA lost U.N.-supervised elections in September 1992 and went cack to war.

## By Dr. Fahed Fanek

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## Right decision

NEW ZEALAND'S decision to take its dispute with France to the World Court to adjudicate Paris' decision to resume nuclear testing in Asia's South East region is not likely to convince French President Jacques Chirac to go back on his word on the subject. Still, the submission of this question to the International Court of Justice would offer an important platform for the perusal of this question from all its angles. The court is likely to examine the complaint within the context of not only the recently extended nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), but also within the framework of other conventions related to environmental protection and the preservation of the global eco-system. President Chirac has reversed a decision by his predecessor, Francois Mitterrand, on this highly controversial policy and is committed to conducting nuclear tests as a final step before France could ratify the new NPT. Still the international community has a vested interest in having this question reviewed in a multi-dimensional manner.

A well reasoned court ruling on the subject could be used by the community of nations to end the proliferation of testing on a global level. We cannot but be sympathetic to New Zealand's quest for a full judicial review of nuclear testing for the noble purpose that transcends France's imminent nuclear weapons testing.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily Saturday discussed Saudi-Jordanian relations and said that the time has come for Riyadh and Amman to open a new chapter in their ties following five years of tense relations resulting from the Gulf crisis. Sultan Al Hattab said the coming visit to Saudi Arabia by Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti is expected to pave the way for a restoration of normal ties and the start of a fruitful phase of bilateral cooperation. Paying tribute to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh for his mediation between Riyadh and Amman, the writer said that the Yemeni leader has been instrumental in mending fences and in paving the way for the foreign minister's visit to Riyadh which, according to the president, was keen on restoring normal ties with Amman. The numerous challenges facing the Arab World at the moment and the common interests of Saudi Arabia and Jordan are making it incumbent on the two countries to reconcile and embark on joint efforts to protect the common Arab interests. - 1 lad

the writer. The writer sale and a pole in a pole in a pole in the writer while Arab ranks and give impetus to joint Arab efforts. adding that the foreign minister's coming visit to Riyadh will be part of these efforts to safeguard Arab interests.

COMMENTING ON the situation in Bosnia following the recent Serbian aggression and the displacement of tens of thousands of Muslim inhabitants, a writer in Al Ra'i said Brench President Jacques Chirac stands out alone among world leaders in not only condemning the barbarous attacks but also in demanding that prompt action be taken to put an end to Serbian aggression. French defence minister described as brutal the Serbian attacks on the civilian population stressing that the U.N. peace keeping forces failure to stop the attack was a hard blow to the United Nations and the Western democracies, said Ahmad Misleh. The writer said that though France has been saying that it cannot just look on and do nothing against the Serbian behaviour, it is not capable of launching an offensive on its own to bring about justice to the Bosnian people unless it is backed by the NATO alliance. International legitimacy was a deceptive phrase that was used so often by the United States to protect Israel's aggression on the Arabs and the war against Iraq, and it is clear that such a phrase is not applicable to the Serbs, added the writer. Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Public sector on borrowed time

THE MAIN function of the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) is the production of a vital commodity for sale to the public, just like any other factory or extraction enterprise. Yet, the WAJ does not publish an annual report or reveal a balance sheet or a profit and loss account. Therefore, even a concerned citizen like myself knows nothing about its financial position and has no idea about the volume of its financial losses and its good or bad management, let alone its outstanding debt.

All that we know for sure is that the authority is a big

loser. It operates at a huge deficit, and it fails to provide proper services to the public. Half the quantity of produced water is lost, somehow, before it arrives to the subscribers. WAJ is reportedly aware of water theft from its network, but it keeps silent to avoid headache with the influential violators.

In several occasions, a suggestion was offered that the WAJ should confine itself to producing the water, while other private sector companies may buy it in bulk and sell water to the subscribers in retail, through their own properly maintained networks, just like electricity. Each ime such suggestion was offered, the pro-public sector

band would make a great noise, in defense of the status quo. Public sector lobby would invoke the security of the WAJ staff and the interests of the poor subscribers.

Last week, the WAI obtained yet another hefty syndicated loan for JD 15 million, under the unconditional guarantee of the Treasury, to pay its overdue commit-ments. Borrowing from banks became a routine practice repeated every year just to pay commitments including interest on previous loans and disbursements to contractors, i.e., to cover the annual deficit incurred by the authority, which gets bigger and bigger every year.

As a matter of fact I am surprised and disappointed that

our banks agree to finance such a losing project, which lacks competence and refuses to correct its position, just because the banks will have the Treasury guarantee. Supposedly, the guarantee is meant to be the last line of defence not the first. Banks should have made their loan conditional on a programme guaranteeing the ability to repay the loan. Instead, banks agreed to throw more

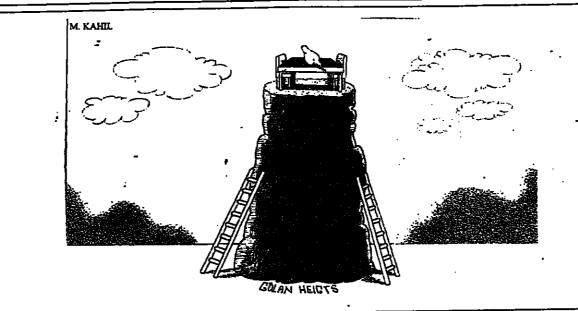
money to sustain bad management.

It takes an insider to find out the real volume of indebtedness of the WAJ, but it is in tens of millions of

JDs. Very soon, all the current proceeds by the WAJ will hardly be enough to pay the accumulated interest on loans, let alone the operating expenses or the repayment of principal.

It is the Ministry of Finance which made this nonsense possible. The purpose of the ministry is to avoid covering the WAJ's annual deficit in cash as it is required to do. It is a game meant to deceive Parliament and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and make them believe that the deficit of the budget is shrinking according to plan, while all that the formation of the budget is shrinking according to plan, while all that the finance administration was doing was to cover up losses of public sector enterprises and defer payment to the

A responsible government should cease to buy time and postpone solutions. Government guarantees should not be granted just like that. They should be included in the budget and added to the deficit. No guarantee should be extended unless it is pre-approved along with the budget. The Council of Ministers is not constitutionally authorised to make financial commitments outside the limits of the budget, even though the maturity will fall in future years.



# Kuwait putting off the inevitable

By Charles Hoots

THE CONSEQUENCES of the Guif war are being felt more than ever in Kuwait. Looming economic difficulties, and political infighting have joined forces to ensure that critical decisions, from industrial to foreign policy, are put off as long as possible. The Al Sabah family, which has ruled Kuwait since independence from Britain in 1961, is reluctant to implement an austerity programme whose hardships will provide ammunition to an increasingly bold National Assembly, for which elections are scheduled for September 1996.

The most urgent problem facing Kuwait is a budget deficit totalling an esti-mated \$4.8 billion in fiscal year 1994-5, which ends in July. Next year's budget is believed to allow for a deficit of \$3 billion, though some economists in Kuwait say this is based on optimistically high oil prices for the next year. Adding to the economic burden is repayment on a \$5.5 billion syndicated loan taken out by Kuwait following the war. The first payment is due in July. The government has also borrowed \$90 billion from the Kuwait Central Bank, "with flexible repayment terms," according to Kuwaiti offi-

It is no secret among Kuwaitis what needs to be done to eliminate the budget deficit by 2000, which Kuwaiti offiicals profess is their goal. Put-ting an end to subsidies in the service sector, privatisation, raising customs duties, imposing a capital gains tax, possibly even an income tax, ali of thes will mean a reater financial burden on Kuwaitis in the short-term. As a result, the emir, the finance minister and the National Assembly are hesitant, fearing a political backlash. A recent World Bank report recommends that Kuwait reduce its public expenditures and impose taxes. But on Feb. 15, the assembly blocked a bill to tax public services, and end subsidies on petrol, water and electricity. And despite plans by the government to privatise some 64 companies in which it holds controlling interests by 1998, in hopes of raising \$12.8 billion, little progress has been made towards this goal. "Our economy is a pampered welfare state.

which the government can-not see itself giving up,"

says one Kuwaiti business-

man. "But by waiting, they

are only putting off the in-evitable, and making it much harder when the time does come.

Fall-out from the stock

exchange crash Indicative of Kuwait's overburdened welfare state and the political considerations that fuel it is the Difficult Debts Settlement Programme, stemming from the 1982 Suq Al Manakhk stock and politicians, some from the roling family, lost a total of \$20 million when Kuwait's unregulated securities exchange collapsed af-ter rising to giddy heights on the back of post-dated cheques used to pay for

In order to save Kuwaiti banks, which had loaned most of the money lost by investors, the government purchased the banks' debts related to the Manakh crash (thereby acquiring many of the 64 companies now considered for privatisation). A plan was finally put forward in 1993 giving debtors two choices. They could have their debts reduced by up to 60 per cent, depending on the amount owed, payable within two years; or they could pay the entire debt over a period of 12 years. Over 90 per cent of debtors chose the first option, and must pay up by Sept. 5,

As one Kuwaiti economist close to the emir admits, "it is obvious many of the debtors will not be able to come up with the money by the deadline, in which case they will be declared bank-rupt." And even if they could, many of the funds would come from real estate and equity invest-ment that would be liquidated at the last minute, wrecking havoc on local markets. Instead, says the adviser, further compromise will have to be made on the debts, which he thinks will entail "extending the first option another two or three years, and extending the second option from 12 to 20 years." As such, the government can write off nearly \$8 billion in debts it expected to recuperate in September. Many Kuwaitis have taken their money out of the country, waiting to see just how tough the government will be on the debtors. This capital flight will dampen confidence in the government's ability to push through a successful privatisation scheme. according to some obser-

While the government ponders ways to reduce spending and increase re-

Kuwait's foreign assets dissipate to alarming levels. The Reserve Fund for Future Generations, managed, through the London-based Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), has assets of some \$25 billion, down from a high of \$100 billion before the Iraqi invasion, after which it was used to finance the Kuwaiti government-in-exile in Saudi Arabia. With no other resources to cover the \$5.5 billion loan, the finance ministry is dipping into the reserve fund to cover shortfalls, leaving some government officials fearful that assets such as a 13 per cent stake in Germany's Daimler-Benz, 20 per cent of Metallgesellschaft A.G., and 24.5 per cent of Hoechst will be liquidated to pay the bills. While KIO officials deny this is their intention, the

decisions are likely to be made at government level. But even without such a blow, the KIO, which commanded the respect of financial markets around the world in the 1980s and early 1990s, has its share of problems. According to a member of the National Assembly's finance committee, KIO has registered only 3.5 per cent annual growth over the past three years. Admittedly, a management reshuffle in 1992 was anything but smooth, and some insiders say former key managers "actively tried to frustrate the new management." The reshuffle came after years of bickering and petty jealousies back in Kuwait, culminating in the removal in March 1990 of the architect of

much of KIO's success, Fuad Ja'far. Difficult political climate While Kuwaitis are aware that steps are desperately needed to arrest the declining economic situation, the political climate militates against decisive action. To placate popular opinion following the Gulf war, the emir. Sheikh Jaber Al Sabah, permitted elections for the 50-member National Assembly, which he had dissolved in 1986. The various "groups" (political parties are forbidden in Kuwait) represented in the assembly, from socialist-oriented nationalists to mercantile interests to the. more conservative Islamic movements, hardly form a consolidated opposition to the ruling family. But they have become more critical over the past two years.

The latest attack came in April, when the assembly leaked a report accusing the

defence ministry of corruption and incompetence.
Tens of millions of pounds were spent during the 1980s and early 1990s for overpriced aircraft and complicated artillery that collected dust in Kuwaiti warehouses, never to be used. In addition, following the Gulf war, mine-clearing contracts were in some cases given to the highest bidder, rather than the lowest. Some assembly members defence expenditure is not based on the country's based on the country's needs country's needs, but instead on how much commission certain officials can get from a particular deal. They are insisting on stringent oversight on all future defence purchases, which the government is resisting. The government will be hard pressed to justify its supplementary defence procurement budget of \$10 billion earmarked through

With talk of Al Sabah family members profiting personally from defence and civil contracts, the emir finds the moment less than opportune to call on Kuwaitis to make sacrifices with an austerity programme. The indecision engendered by the wave of public criticism feeds on itself, as the government buries its head in the sands of bureaucracy as an escape. And National Assembly members, determined to maintain their popularity with constituents, are equally reticent to support ansterity measures. As a result of the political

and economic quagmire, Kuwait's policymakers are neglecting such important topics as relations with Iraq. The international community and many Kuwaitis, albeit in private. are coming round to the idea that a more constructive policy is needed to-wards Iraq, where U.N. sanctions are seen as afflicting hardship not so much on the Iraqi regime as on ordinary Iraq citizens. The days when Kuwait could buy its way out of trouble are over. While it continues to pay its debts from the Gulf war, it is unlikely Kuwaiti could pay for a Western force to repel another Iraqi invasion if needed. Getting its economic house in order and laying the groundwork for healthy relations with a post-Saddam Iraq must be a priority for Kuwait, no mat-ter how painful a pill it is to

Middle East International

# Bosnia: Time to end the failed international effort

By Jim Hoagiand

WASHINGTON - The Serbian missilemen who shot down Captain Scott O'Grady's F-16 over Bosnia committed attempted murder and got away with it. After a month, there has been no American retaliation for an act of treachery that once would have brought the heavens down

on its perpetrators.

Understand why the American government swallowed this humiliation (with even a serious denunciation of the Serbian politicians in Belgrade who over-saw the shoot-down) and you understand why the international effort in Bosnia-has failed so miserably — and why it should now be

A line has been crossed in Bosnia, a line that separates humanitarian impulse from moral rot; a line that divides ineffectiveness from dishonour. The United Nations is now on the wrong side of that line, protecting the Serbs (and the status quo) from retaliation for having downed Captain O'Grady and for killing. wounding, imprisoning and Spanish. Danish and other soldiers operating in Bosnia under the U.N. flag. This can only undermine

U.S. and European support for keeping those troops there and continuing an arms embargo against Bosnia. It is now embarrassingly evident that in Bosnia and elsewhere U.N. 'humanitarian" operations are guided by bureaucratic dedication to career and organisation. There is no room for justice, or for outrage over the Serbs' long record of atrocity and betrayal, in the mandate of Yasushi Akashi. Two straws break the

U.N.'s back: 1. Mr. Akashi, the Japanese diplomat who represents Secretary General Boutros Ghali in Bosnia. actively blocked French and British efforts to form outside the U.N. command a rapid reaction force to strike back at the Serbs after hundreds of peacekeepers were taken hostage by the Serbs and then released in June.

The rapid reaction force will be under Mr. Akashi's control and will observe the same peacekeeping rules imposed on the 22,500-man international army already there. Mr. Akashi promised the Serbs in a secret letter disclosed to reporters by the Bosnian government.

The new troops, like the old troops, will not be permitted to make distinctions between Serbian aggressors who have "ethnically cleansed" Muslim territories and the forces of the U.N.-recognised Bosnian government trying to regain ts lost lands.

If Mr. Akashi has his way, the United Nations will go on equating Serbs who blockade food shipments with Bosnians who blameless for this. starve because those ship-

2. Following Captain O'Grady's escape, Mr. Akashi, backed by France and Russia, vetoed any new bombing raids on the Serbs. The U.S. Air Force was denied the chastising effect of retaliation and the preemptive protection of taking out Serbian antiaircraft missile batteries that are linked to computer networks controlled from

Belgrade. The chilling hostagetaking changes nothing, ex-cept to make the United Nations command even more timid. The murder attempt on Captain
O'Grady changes nothing except to end effective enforcement of the flightexclusion zone over Bosnia. Score in this exchange: Serbs everything, United Nations nothing.

That is galling, but it is now probably too late to

"You have to respond. immediately." Senator John McCain of Arizona, a fighter pilot in Vietnam and isoner of war for five and half years, told me. "I don't think you can retaliate a month or two later and expect to have any

But Mr. McCain also made this telling point: 'We made a mistake in not publicising the fact that this shoot-down could not have happened without the Belgrade computers the missile batteries are hooked up to. Instead the administration is constantly sending an envoy" to negotiate with the Serbian president. Slobodan Milosevic — suspected by some in U.S. intellgence of having given the orders both for the downing of the F-16 and the grabbing of the U.N. soldiers.

This is how moral rot spreads. The United Nations once served as useful political cover for the major powers, who wanted to limit their own involvement in the wars of ex-Yugoslavia. The administration was right to try to minimise the dangers of rupture within NATO over a unilateral U.S. lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia.

But the war has now reached a point where the value-free U.N. equation of Serbs who are willing to kill with Bosnians who are willing to die cannot be sustained and cannot be allowed to spread deeper into the Clinton administra-

Americans will not long support humanitarianism based on self-serving bureaucratic cynicism and fear. For better or worse. American participation in the arms embargo will soon come to an end and NATOmember troops will come out. The war is going to get bloodier. And the bureaucrats of the United Nations. who now pursue policies that profoundly off rend a common sense of justice and decency, will not be

ments do not get through. The New York Times

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By Todd Lewa

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spokesman said.

It brings the total of Dutch peacekeepers in Serb hands

# Rio Slum: A world of violence, solidarity, horror and hope

The Associated Press RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil - To cross the invisible barrier that divides the world of comfortable apartments from the world of shanties on Dona Marta hill, the visitor needs a guide — and the blessing of a drug baron. Today's guide is a boy of 11, "little blackie," who lives on the hill. He wears sandals and red bermudas, His head is shaved clean because of lice. Permission to enter Dona

By Todd Lewan

Marta must come from Tamanero, the trafficker who operates a \$50,000-amonth cocaine business from a hilltop hideaway equipped with Uzis, AR-15 assault rifles and grenades.

Tamanero hasn't been seen on Rio's streets since 1991, the year he killed his way to the top of the drug gang. A network of "olheiros," lookouts, pass his decision in whispers oown the maze of alleyways in minutes:

"Let the visitor pass." Little Blackie's father. Miguel, is a "fogueteiro," a flare. His job is to alert the others to a police raid. He nods once to his son, who nods back. "Come with me, sir,"

says the boy. He bounds up the concrete stairway into a twilight world where police are bandits and bandits police and residents tiptoe a line between the two.

Dona Marta's 12,000 residents are mostly black or of mixed race, often barely able to read, grateful to find work for \$1 an hour.

The hill is ignored by politicians, except at election time. Police, too, rarely go to Dona Marta except for a cut of the drug profits. Two-fifths of Rio's 6.5 million inhabitants live here and in other hillside slums where fear and prejudice isolate them from the 'asphalt'city' below.

Little Blackie scampers up the steps past snoozing dogs, chicken droppings, running sewage, and on past a Roman Catholic church with its windows up and down its concrete

"See how the bullets went in?" says Little Blackie, putting a forefinger in one of the holes. "The shots came from down below. It was the cops. They came last week trying to scare money out of the traffick-

In an alley behind the church is a small stretch of Dona Marta's prized real estate. Jair Mauricio, an employee of the state electric company, lives there in a three-house with running water and electricity.



A Brazilian army helicopter flies low over a Rio slum as part of a campaign to crack down on illegal trade in arms and drugs (AFP photo)

Dona Marta appears' on city maps in light green, as if it were a park. There is nothing to indicate its labyrinth of alleys, its 2,500 homes, two barbershops, video rental store and 40 "biroscas," family stores.

Its shanties are bunched so tightly that neighbours pass borrowed items from window to window. There are no secrets, no privacy. Music blares out onto streets ironically named: Peace and Quiet Street, Rising Sun Lane or Silence Lane. Houses stay open day locks.

Little Blackie explains: "This is the safest place in Rio." he says. "If you rob a house or rape a girl, pal, you pay for it." He draws a forefinger across

Traffickers, it seems, have their own ways of keeping the peace. One teen-ager was caught stealing a handbag-a gang member poured acid on bis palm. A drunk who didn't pay his beer tab had his

nails pulled out. Bullet holes riddle a concrete wall topped with barbed wire. The boy explains the holes:

"Those are left by the gang when they execute an enemy," he says. "They line them up, shoot them, then pitch their bodies over the wall.

The law the maffickers. enforce above all is the ·code of silence

"The bandits respect us." says Suely De Oliveira, a housemaid who supports seven children. "You just have to respect them back and not get in their way,

The traffickers sponsor dances and a youth soccer team. They distrubute clothes and often pay bills for unemployed parents.

Young boys, called "airplanes," who run cocaine to customers can make \$500 a week, quite a sum in a country with a minimum wage of \$110 a month. A "manager" can earn many times that, and Tamanero offers a nice "retirement" plan: He pays for the bu-rials of traffickers killed by police and gives their fami-

lies lifetime pensions. Jorge Luis Dos Santos is getting ready to pour the foundation for his new house. His old shanty burned down when a neighbour's cooking gas canister exploded and set fire to 47 shacks. The city promised to build new homes, but

never did. . Santos turned to the only

help he can get.
... "I got some savings, and I got some more money to buy materials from the boys up top," says Santos, 32, a plumber, motioning to the top of the hill where the traffickers have their hide-

"Sir, I know what they do isn't right. People down below make a fuss when you mention the traffickers. But they're helping me. God bless me, I say. God bless

The path suddenly opens on a breathtaking view of Guanabara Bay, pearl beaches, sugarloaf, and the Christ the Redeemer statue atop purple Corcovado Mountain.

"You should see it at night," says Inacia Rodrigues De Lima, 53, scrub-bling her laundry on a rock and rinsing it in a bucket.

"It's so pretty, you sometimes feel closer to God." For years, Brazil pushed a falsely Romantic image of its slums as cradles of car-

nival, samba and poor-buthappy people. That misconception got a boost from the 1959 movie "Black Orpheus" set against a backdrop of Rio carvinal.

Climbing higher, Little Blackie points out a drab house. "The residents' association," he says.

A man as thin as a grasshopper sits on the stoop. He is Jose Luis De Oliveira. or "Ze" for short, the third association president since 1991. His predecessors were shot to death.

Ze ushers his visitors inside. He blows the dust off . his desk and couch, then plops himself into a chair. On the wall behind him hang faded pictures of John Lennon and Che Guevara. "Welcome to Bosnia," he jokes.

Just then, two young men in purple bermudas climb up the alley, each bran-dishing a 9 MM automatic pistol. They nod at Ze through the window. Ze explains that soldiers and

police began raiding Rio's slums in March to strangle the drug trade. The traffickers are jumpy and suspect all outsiders.

The sky roars and the walls shake. An army helicopter hovers above, looking for traffickers. Outside, children squeal and jump up and down.

"As T was saving," Ze goes on, "this is all a big show. A whole army isn't going to stop the traffickers. You know, the coke doesn't grow here, and the guns aren't made here. They're the flower of a weed that has roots down below, in the city."

Ze, a high school graduate who worked as a gardener, sidewalk salesman and delivery boy, took over as association president in the summer of 1993 when his predecessor was

"Big Chico," the husky president of the residents' association and "Heguinha," his secretary, had broken the code of silence by informing on the gang. It was no surprise to residents when a group of men with guns appeared

one night at the door of a bar where the couple sat over beers.

"The gunmen filled their mouths with shots," whispers a portly, old woman named Gloria who was at home in her shack 3 metres away from the shooting. She never saw the killers, she swears.

Ze is the fixer in this fevela, of slum. He distributes mail, takes phone messages, posts job offers, organises samba dances.

"Somebody's got to do these things,' he says. "Otherwise, people will have to rely on the trafficers for everything.'

Left to their own devices, Dona Marta's residents have come up with imaginative ways of coping with deprivation.

A web of white vinvl tubes that crisscrosses the slum, rooftop to rooftop. It distributes chlorinated drinking water from a tower atop the hill to 80 per cent of the homes.

From the outside, Dona Marta at night looks like a thousand points of light on a black mountain skyline. Few "cariocas," or Rio residents, realise that taxpayers are footing the bill.

No one pays for electricity in Dona Marta. Residents just tap into power

Years ago, it was not uncommon for the Favela's children to be locked away in closets or chained for hours at a time while their parents were at work.

In 1986, a 6-month-old boy strangled to death with a rope used to tie him to his working mother's bed. The women of Dona Marta decided to act...

crete mixers and tools up the bill, and, with the help of an American priest, built the slum's first day care Two more followed. To-

day, 850 infants and children receive meals, classes in music, painting and spelling, and share a huge gym mat for their afternoon nap.

The top of the hill is the worst part of Dona Marta. The stench is heavier, the shacks are mud and sticks, the alleys narrow. The steps disappear and the path turns mucky.

Fernandes leans against a rock face with a challenge painted on it in Portugueses: Enough of hepatitis. Let's fight it.

"At dusk the rats come out of the ditches," he says. "They're so big they chase the cats. This whole area is full of disease, and those rats are part of the

Fernandes descends along the edge of a steep, bald, slope. Years ago, a tropical storm swept a dozen buts thousands of yards down the hill, some

It is said that after the storm passed people saw the image of St. John the Baptist walking along with the slope. "From then, on, residents, called the Fayela 'Santa Marta.' Only outsiders still call it Dona Marta,\*

Dusk is falling as Little Blackie leads the way down the alleys. The sweltering deat retreats before a

Lamps flicker on. The smell of black bean stew. boiling cabbage and fried rice and bananas drifts in the night air. Radios are muted and shadows soften the hard edges of Dona

Marta. Little Blackie stops at the bottom of the hill. He turns

to go, then stops, "Will you ever come

back to visit, sir?" "Sure. Why not?" The boy shrugs.

### Serbs press assault on Zepa The danger of disease,

## (Continued from page 1).

the U.N. mission in Bosnia, Mr. Rifkind said: "President Chirac has so far given a lot of fine words but no proposal. We all share (his) desire to see effective action but the real question is what kind of action could help."

French Defence Minister Charles Millon meanwhile alled for a multinational orce to defend Gorazde and Sarajevo, seeking British, U.S. and German participation in the force.

The defence minister said the objective of such a force would be twofold: "To deal with breaking the siege and assuring the safety and freedom of movement in Sarajevo" and to "assure the survival and freedom of the Gorazde safe haven."

Mr. Millon said France was prepared to contribute its rapid reaction force (RRF) contingent to the multinational force.

Mr. Millon, speaking on French radio, said: "The response of our allies to the call for a meeting (in London next Friday) has already been positive.\*

"This should be done relatively quickly," Mr. Millon said, noting that Srebrenica had already fallen.

Bosnian Serb forces detained nine Dutch U.N. peacekeepers after overrunining the last U.N. observation post in Srebrenica, U.N.

Thousands of men and male teenagers from Srebrenica have been seized by the Serbs and taken to unknown locations, and there were unconfirmed reports of killings

and rapes. The U.N. failure to protect Srebrenica infuriated the Bosnian government, which pledged its lightly armed troops would defend Zepa and Gorazde, if it too is attacked.

Thousands of refugees chased out of Srebrenica were bused out to the northern government stronghold of Tuzia where they have spent cool nights and sweltering days in the open with inadequate food and sanitation. The Bosnian government blamed the United Nations for the exodus.

Srebrenica, Zepa and-Gorazde are the three Muslim enclaves along the Serbian border in eastern Bosnia. The fall of these areas would give the Serbs an uninterrupted swath of territory running from the Serbian border to the block of government-held land in central Bosnia.

The situation improved Saturday for the refugees in Tuzla. The government, which at first refused to cooperate with the United Nations in attending to the refugees, opened shelters to accommodate 11,000 people. At the U.N.-controlled airfield, where the thousands had initially converged, 700 tents were crected for another 5,400 people.

such as diarrhoea, spreading among the refugees was great, the World Health Organisation said. UNICEF said it will launch a vaccination campaign in Tuzla next week against polio, measles, tuberculosis and diphtheria.

The U.N. Security Council on Friday condemned the mass deportation from Srebrenica as "a clear violation of... human rights," but did not say it would do anything

to stop them. France has failed to win backing for its demand to use force to reestablish the Srebrenica "safe area" and defend others. U.N. officials on the ground dismissed the idea as unfeasible.

Russian Vitaly Churkin held talks with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic in Pale Friday. The "foreign minister" in the rebel Serbs' self-proclaimed government said Saturday that Mr. Churkin aimed to win guarantees that the Dutch peacekeepers seized by the Serbs in Srebrenica and hundreds of others surrounded at their base north of that "safe area"

vould be freed. 'We pledge that in the next few days the Dutch will be free to go wherever they want," Aleksa Buha said. In the past, the Serbs have only made such promises in exchange for something. Over 300 U.N. hostages taken after airstrikes against Serb targets in May were freed after the Serbs reportedly won assurances of no more

That pledge was broken with last minute attacks against Serb tanks around Srebrenica, but the air strikes failed to halt the Serb offen-

Thorvald Stoltenberg, the U.N. envoy now responsible for Bosnia, was expected to meet Serb leaders on Satur-

# Kabariti begins Saudi visit

(Continued from page 1)

break the ice and restore ties," a Jordanian official told

Officials cautioned against expecting a dramatic change but said they hoped Mr. Kabariti's trip could lead to a summit meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and King Fahd this year. The Saudi foreign minister

told AFP: "This visit will allow us to review all questions relating to bilateral relations and the situation in the Arab region." The two ministers, who

met in March in Cairo on the sidelines of a meeting of the Arab League when they agreed the visit in principle, went into a meeting immëdiately after Mr. Kabariti's arrival. On Thursday, King Hussein said he hoped the visit two countries will restore would be "a step towards establishing solid relations" between the two countries.

In a departure statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Kabariti said that Jordan hopes the visit will open a new chapter in relations between the two sides. noting that he will hold with Prince Saud "serious talks that will be characterised with candidates in order to lay the basis for a fruitful dialogue which Jordan hopes

will continue at all levels." This dialogue, he added, is needed to pave the way for a future relationship based on clear principles stressing that the two sides have strategic issues and common interests to discuss.

Expressing hope that the

Kabariti in his statement.

their normal relations soon. the minister said the time had come for normal ties to be resumed "Abnormal relations had

existed due to abnormal situations which have now. disappeared," he said. "We hope that the visit will

herald a new beginning on the long road of cooperation' and coordination between Saudi Arabia and Jordan and will pave the way for meeting by officials from the two countries for the best interest of their people," said Mr.

The minister, who is ecompanied by two Foreign linistry officials, was seen off by the charge d'affaires of the Saudi Arabian embassy in

### Israel, PLO to draft deal today

(Continued from page 1)

weekly meeting. Israel warned Saturday that negotiators faced a tough task in hammering out a deal on extending self-rule by July 25 after missing an earlier

July 1 target date.

'There is still a lot of work, especially in writing the accord, and we will have to be creative to solve issues as important as water-sharing." Israeli Foreign Minister Shi-mon Peres told Israeli radio.

The issue is even more important because Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are short on water. That is why we have to find a solution to prevent waste water from polluting drinking water." he added.

A foreign ministry official said the open-ended talks would go on until they reached a full accord.

"We will do our best to meet the deadline," Dr. Erekat said. "But the substance of the accord is much more important than the date at the top of it."

leave nothing outstanding and find guarantees for the continued redeployment of the Israeli army," he said. Mr. Peres said Israel was ready to negotiate the water

"We are going to try to

issue, but wanted to maintain control of the vital resource. "When it comes to water, there can only be one conductor," he said.

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Turkey appoints new public works minister

ANKARA (R) - Turkey on Saturday appointed Halil Culhaoglu as public works minister to replace Erman Sahin who quit his post on Friday over a row on bureaucratic appointments. The appointment was made public in the official gazette, Anatolian news agency said, Mr. Sahin and Mr. Culhaoglu belong to the junior coalition partner social democrat Republican People's Party (RPP). Mr. Culha oglu served as public works and tourism minister in previous coalition governments but lost his post earlier this year after Hikmet Cetin took over as RPP chairman. The coalition, formed in 1991, has been hit by a series of cabinet resignations and squabbling between its social democrat and conservative wings in recent months.

### Italian senators urge end to Iraq embargo

ROME (R) - Italian senators presented an all-party motion on Friday asking their government to press for the end to a four-year U.N. trade embargo on Iraq because of its tragic effects on the Iraqi people. The trade sanctions, which include a ban on Iraqi oil sales, were imposed following its invasion of Kuwait in 1990: The motion, signed by 42 senators, said the embargo caused alarming poverty and hunger among Iraqis who needed extra humanitarian aid quickly. The U.N. Security Council has yet to give Iraq a clean bill of health on fulfilment of Gulf war ceasefire term which include the scrapping of weapons of mass destruction.

### U.N. experts inspect Nicosia bastion works

NICOSIA (R) - United Nations military experts on Friday inspected a building site in Turkish-held Nicosia which the Cyprus government suspects is being used by the Turkish Cypriot community to boost military fortifications. The eight-member team of experts sent by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), toured the Rokkas bastion on Nicosia's medieval walls for three hours at midday Friday as a helicopter hovered above the site. An aeroplane from the Turkish army also flew over the area. UNFICYP officials refused to state the result of the visit. The military experts reported directly back to chief of mission Gustave Feissel. Cyprus's Greek-run government has protested to the U.N. Security Council over the works which they believe violate a 1989 disengagement agreement banning military activity in that area and several others of capital Nicosia: • •

**C**2

ij.

They lugged boards, pipes, sacks of cement, con-

Raw sewage flows down the hill in black ditches.

with people trapped inside.

ocean breeze.

"Not many people do,"

# **UAE** pursues energy expansion

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The the output capacity of Bab said development plans United Arab Emirates (UAE), one of the biggest oil producers, has completed a major expansion of its energy sector and more projects are underway, an official report

The projects in 1994 in-cluded drilling development and exploratory wells, and stepping up water and gas injection, said the report by the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

They also included maintenance of existing fields and expanding the use of the more advanced horizontal drilling technique.

The emphasis during 1994 continued to be maintenance, upgrading and modernisation of oil production and water injection facilities," the company said in its 1994 report. Production operations for

crude oil, water injection and gas supply were performed safely and efficiently throughout the year in both the onshore and offshore areas. and (we) achieved all crude oil production and export targets."
ADNOC said it had just

completed a project to boost

Trillions owed

in back wages

MOSCOW (AP) - Russia

could face a wave of strikes

and social unrest over the

mounting back wages that

companies owe their work-

ers. newspapers warned on

in Russia

Friday.

field to around 350,000 barrels per day (bpd) making it one of the biggest offshore fields in the world.

Development also covered the Northeast Abu Dhabi fields of Rumaitha, Shanayel and Al Dabbiya. Another offshore field, Shah, was being developed to produce around 63,000 bpd when commissioned in late 1996. Work is also under way to

upgrade production at the Sahil oilfield to 55,000 bpd in 1997 and 75,000 bpd in the year 2004, said ADNOC, which controls the UAE's energy sector along with foreign partners on a 60-40 basis. Further development stu-dies are also being carried out on the lower Zukum field, it

"Regarding the Upper Zakum field, plans to upgrade power generation, gasoil separation and water injection facilities are continuing at year-end, with commissioning of new facili-ties planned in the first quar-ter of 1995."

The report provided no figures on cost or overall pro-duction, but oil executives would increase the UAE's crude output capacity from around 2.3 million bpd in 1990 to nearly 2.6 million at the end of 1995 and three million bpd after the year

The UAE has spent an average \$1 billion a year on oil expansion since 1990 and billions of dollars were expected to be pumped in coming years. Most of the projects were carried out by the two main operating firms, ADCO and ADMA-OPCO, which are shared with Japanese and Western part-

The UAE's current output is estimated at 2.16 million bpd, making it the fourth largest producer, in the 12nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) after Saudi Arabia, Iran and Venezuela.

Energy development in the UAE also covered gas, with a major project progressing on schedule, according to ADNOC.

The Onshore Gas Development Project (OGD) will be completed by the end of 1995," it said. "It will tripple the capacity of the existing gas processing plant at Habshan to 55.9 million cubic metres of natural gas per day while condensate recovery will be increased to 130,000 bpd and natural gas liquid to 5,900 tonnes per

Another project completed was the expansion of Umm Shaif gas output to supply an additional 19.5 million cubic metres of natural gas per day to ADGAS after completion of its Das liquefaction plant to double capacity to five million tonnes per year. The report said drilling op-

erations gained momentum in 1994, with around 15,000 metres drilled onshore and 13,000 metres spudded offshore. A total of 66 wells were drilled, including 17 horizontal wells while a similar number of wells were maintained.

"In addition to achieving all production and processing targets, ADNOC sold all its oil supply for the year and increased overall export sales of refined products," ADNOC general manager Yusuf Omair Ibn Yusuf

# World airports report

GENEVA (R) — World airports recorded steady growth six per cent for a total of in passenger traffic in the first 132.2 million, and North quarter of 1995, with Pacific Rim countries leading the way, and a strong surge in

The daily Trud said 12 million Russians, or nearly every fifth worker, have not been paid on time. About onethird of them have not received their salaries for more than two months. "Non-payment of wages

even for one month, not to speak of two or three, places the workers' families in a critical situation," the news-

Official figures showed lion rubles ([\$1.4 billion) as of July 1.

The hardest-hit, according to Trud, was the machinebuilding industry, followed by the coal mining, constructison and agricultural

spheres. The largest amount of debts - 518 rubles - was recorded in the Tyumen region of Siberia, the heart of Russia's oil country, followed of Keemerovo, the state Statistics Committee said in a report released earlier this week.

Among other such leaders, the daily Izvestia on Friday cited the regions of Irkutsk and Chelyabnisk in Siberia. Primorye in the Far East, Tatarstan. Yakutia, Bashkort stan. Kaliningrad and

"Russia is again threatened with a wave of strikes and social conflicts linked to back wages," Izvestia said. "The decline in real-term earnings and the current growth in prices of food and goods are sharply aggravating the situa-

Trud warned that the back wages crisis was a powder keg that might yet explode during parliamentary elections next

December.
"The 5.7 million unemployed, the 12 million who have not received their salaries, the 45 million who live below the poverty line — all that is not the best back-ground for the upcoming elections," it wrote. The newspaper added that the government was too quick to report signs of economic stabilisation.

The total amount of back wages grew seven per cent since June, roughly in line with inflation. But in May, debts jumped 10 per cent, faster than the 7.9 per cent inflation rate.

The government, possibly seeking to counter any labour unrest, asked parliament on Thursday to raise the minimum wage by 26 per cent from the present 43,700 rubles a month (about \$10).

Although few workers are paid the minimum wage. It is used as a basis for calculating other salaries and social benefits. Approval of the step therefore might ease ten-

Separately, Trud on Friday reported delays in the payment of pensions due to irregular money transfers from the government to the

state pension fund. Recently, the Finance Ministry allocated the fund 300 billion rubles in government promissory notes, while the total federal debt to it exceeded two trillion rubles.

# first quarter traffic surge

cargo movement, according to a report recently issued.

The Geneva-based Airorts Council International (ACI) said figures from 430 airports showed six per cent more passengers passing through than in the first three months of last year and 12 per cent more cargo.

Although the figures indicated slightly slower growth over the period than for the whole of last year and for January 1995, airline analysts said they confirmed a firm emergence by the industry from five years of recession. Leading the passenger

growth in percentage terms was the Pacific region which for ACI includes Australia Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, South-East Asia and the North American airports of San

Francisco and Vancouver. These recorded a collective per cent for a provided no figures at all. total of 77.6 million passen-

America was third with 5.8 per cent for 240.3 million.

ACI officials said the slightly lower growth rate compared with eight per cent for the whole of 1994 and nine per cent in January was largely explained by easter, when holiday travel booms, falling in the second

quarter this year.
In cargo, Latin America
and the Caribbean returned a 22.5 per cent increase over the period from a relatively low base to 720,913 metric

The officials said this reflected the rapidly growing importance of Miami Airport in Florida, counted by ACI in the Latin American and Caribbean region, as a gateway and main hub for both passenger and cargo traffic to and from the area.

Apart from Brazil, few countries in the region made more than partial returns. Mexico, Argentina and Peru solidly-based cargo surge of 16.9 per cent to a total of 2.1 million metric tonnes.

Europe returned a 10.9 per cent increase to 2.4 million tonnes and North America (Canada and the United States) 9.7 per cent to 5.2

Asia — which for ACI includes India and Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the Middle East — recorded passenger growth of 3.6 per cent to 15.2 million and a cargo increase of 11.2 per cent but to a relatively low 404.451 tonnes.

Chicago's O'Hare, main hub for traffic within the North American region, remained the world's busiest passenger airport with just under 15 million people passing through between January 1 and March 31 - and increase of eight per cent.

It was followed by Atlanta, Dallas/Forth Worth, and Los Angeles. In fifth place - and top passenger airport outside North America — was London's Heathrow with 11.8 million The pacific showed a crease of 6.4 per cent.

# THE Daily Crossword by Janet R. Bender

© 1995 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

10 Scaly anteater

11 Name in video

games 12 "Shroud" city

18 Hairdo, briefly

22 Biblical judge

13 Exhausted

25 Stupid one

26 Stravinsky

30 Expert

31 Emoter

32 Actress

27 Beside: pref.

MacGraw

34 Collection of

36 Moslem title

40 Re-election

anecdotes

37 Austin's state:

- **ACROSS** 1 Narrative poem 5 First name of 7D
- 14 FDR's pet
- 15 Actress Miles 16 Became alert 17 Highlights in
- Minnesota? 19 Drum type
- 20 Work like a dog
- 21 Cola cooler 23 Big smile
- 24 Direction to St. Louis?
- 28 Dirty haze 29 Money in Iran 30 Gotcha!
- 33 Coroner's letters 35 Lasso
- 39 Broadway backer from Anaheim?
- 44 Novelist Zola 45 Jillian of TV 46 Woodsman's
- tool 47 "- Wonderful
- Life" 50 Gemstone
- 53 Power source in New York?
- 58 Author James 59 Comic Carney 60 Regional flora
- and fauna 63 Author Ira
- 35 Top grades in California? 68 Kid's vehicle 69 inter -
- 70 Berry and Howard
- 71 Resource 72 Gainsay 73 Louver
- DOWN 1 Salamanders
- 2 Mechanical device
- 3 Sacro-4 Artist's surface

8 Racers' org.

9 Draft org.

- 5 Hail! 6 Pasture 7 "Catch-22" star
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49 Overseas

abbr.

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56 "- of Two

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GREY DENY

Puzzle solved:

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Blue Nile

61 Source of the

- level negotiations. Vice minister-level negotiators from both sides were unable to overcome their dif-
- ferences during three days of talks, and Japan recommended that Japanese Transport Minister Shizuka Kamei negotiate directly with U.S. Secretary of Transport Federico Pena after further vice-ministerial talks, a U.S.

TOKYO (AP) — Japan and the United States concluded

air cargo trade talks Saturday

without resolving their differ-

ences, and Japan suggested

taking the dispute to cabinet-

embassy official said. Washington now must decide whether to try to avert a potential trade battle, or move toward punitive sanc-

The air cargo dispute flared shortly after U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Japanese rade Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto agreed late last month on improving access to Japan's auto market. The issue had caused years of trade tensions between the world's two largest economies, and vice ministerial talks had reached an impasse.

Japan triggered the air route fraces by refusing to grant U.S. carriers new routes that stop in Japan before continuing to other Asian nations, Japan says a 1952 accord unfairly allows U.S. camers' many more such flights than Japanese counterparts are permitted from

break down on third day the United States.

U.S.-Japan aviation talks

Washington has threatened sanctions on Japanese flights but has not specified them or

set a deadline. Kyodo news service reported that the sanctions could be waged as early as next week, and that they would likely be in the form of ban on certain Japanese flights that pass through other Asian destinations before landing in the United States. Japan has said it would retaliate.

Japan refused to grant the U.S. cargo carrier Federal Express seven new routes from Japan to the Philip-pines, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan, demanding that the 1952 accord be renegoti-Japan says United Airlines

is already violating the accord by allowing more passengers for Asian points to embark in Tokyo than the number of continuing passengers from U.S. cities.

The U.S. delegation is being led by Daniel Tarullo, assistant secretary of state for commerce, and the Japanese side by Masahide Ochi, senior adviser at the Ministry of Transportation.

After Saturday's talks, Mr. Tarullo said, "I came to Tokyo to have productive discussions and we did," according to the embassy official, who declined to be named. The U.S. delegation was scheduled to leave Japan soon after Saturday's talks.

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JULY 16, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Bring your talents to the attention of bigwigs who can help you become more successful. Take time to be with good friends later.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Study your home well today and se what can be completed to make it more attractive and functional. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Concentrate on the highest

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You can get excellent ideas this morning on how to add to your present abun

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You are magnetic and should see those persons today who can assist you in getting ahead faster this evening. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is a good day touthink about ways to make your life more satisfying and enviable, but avoid seeing friends this evening who are dull.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Try to see as many as good friends as you can during the day today and be happy at hobbies with them, but this evening is best spent alone with your loved ones. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Study how best to gain greater prestige in the outside world, and try to please higher-ups and the public in general.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) This is a fine day to take a short trip and make new and interesting contacts, but don't fret over what can't be helped this evening. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to Jan

activity which both you and your make enjoy during the daytime but be quiet at hoem this evening with the TV. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) This is a good day to

contact powerful persons you know and they can help you to make PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Study your environment well today and decide how you want to improve it in some way. Contact those you want to assist you.

Birthstone of July: Ruby - Tiger's Eye

# New approach needed to bolster economy in Gaza

in the Middle East, "current

realities in Gaza and the

West Bank present excep-

tional problems (that) re-

quire exceptional solutions.

The creation of industrial

parks would significantly con-

tribute to a resolution of all

"Understand that building

a comprehensive regional peace in the Middle East is

much like constructing an in-

verted pyramid," Mr. Zogby told the subcommittee. "The

foundation, the point at

which the ultimate stability of

the entire enterprise rests, is

embedded in the sands of

Gaza and in the rocky terrain of the West Bank," he said.

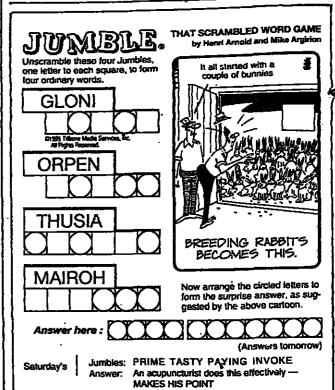
of these problems."

WASHINGTON (USIA) -The introduction of industries into the Palestinian economy in the West Bank was suggested as a "new approach" to help alleviate the problem of underdeyelopment, an Arab American supporter of economic development in Gaza testified at a recent hearing in

On July 13, several Arab American and American developers eager to help develop the Gaza economy testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Near East and South Asian Affairs. According to James Zog-by, President of the Arab

American Institute and Co-President of Builders for Peace, an economic development organisation of American-born Jews and Arabs and their counterparts

"If we do not do more and do it quickly, we are in dan-ger of further eroding confi-dence in the process and endangering the entire edifice of peace," he added.





"I got caught playing computer games at work. As punishment, my boss made me lose 2 lives and go back to level 3."

## **Andy Capp**



### Peanuts



AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'LL BE BACK HERE WHERE YOU STARTED.





### Mutt'n'Jeff



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# Vacant flats in Jordan total 4,000

There are 4,000 vacant

apartments in Jordan, with 3,200 of them. or 80 per cent of the total, -concentrated in Amman, according to President of the Jordanian Real Estate Investors Society Mohammad Kheir Kilani. Mr. Kilani said about 80 per cent of the 3,200 vacant apartments in Amman, are located in the western part of the city. He added that the Kingdom's annual need of new apartments stands at about 30,000, of which 20,000 are in Amman. He said about 80 per cent. should fit the needs of low and middle-income families, but instead a large percentage of them do not meet this requirement. He said despite the fact that the high number of vacant apartments should create a state of balance between supply and demand, the market is still suffering from a state of uncertainty because of the prevailing political situation. Meanwhile, the director of a real state office in Amman attributed the slump in the real estate market to high expectations, on the part of real estate owners, of flow vestors into Jordan. He said a dunum of land (1,000 square metres) in the western Amman area of Khilda now fetches JD 50,000, in Umm Al Summag JD 70,000, in Al Rabiya from ID 100,000 to 120,000, in Sweifiyyeh from 100,000-140,000 and in Abdoon JD 185,000. He said the biggest obstacle facing foreign investors in the real estate market in the Kingdom was bureaucracy which might take a foreign

\*\* A meeting will gather Jordanian and Israeli-Arab businessmen in Amman in the period July 18-20. About 150 Israeli-Arabs representing 19 Palestinian rities and villages in Israel are expected to take part in the meeting, organised by the Hashemite League for International Economic Cooperation. League Executive President Maan thibyan said the bulk of Israeli-Arab participants are importers who will have the chance to meet with Jordanian exporters. Mr. Thibyan said that the Israeli-Arabs play an important role in the Israeli economy, noting they their annual income totals about \$6 billion, or about 150 per cent of the volume of the Jordanian economy. Thus, they could be an important market for Jordanian products which can, in terms of cost, compete with similar Israeli products, he continued, adding that the Arab-Israelis also have marketing experience and connections in international markets and can help Jordanian exporters increase their clientele abroad (Al Ra'i).

investor buying land in

Jordan between 30-40 days

(Al Aswaq).

## Kuwait, Union Carbide launch \$2b project

KUWAFT (AP) - The U.S. chemical giant Union Car-bide and Kuwait's Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) Saturday launched a \$2 billion joint venture to build a petrochemical plant in the emirate.

Union Carbide is the first foreign partner allowed to invest in the governmentowned oil sector, part of a post-Gulf war plan to revitalise the economy.

This includes large-scale privatisation to attract foreign investment and reduce government spending — the state employs around 90 per cent of the workforce — and eliminate a budget defect, currently pegged at \$3.96 bil-lion by the year 2000.

"We think this will be the world's most competitive producer for the products we're going to make," William Joyce, Union Carbide's president and chief executive officer, said before signing the joint venture agreement with Kuwaiti Oil Minister Abdul Mohsen Al Madai.

The venture, Equate, will be 45 per cent owned by Union Carbide. PIC will own an equal share, and the remaining 10 per cent will be offered to the public through the Boubyan Petrochemicals

Later Saturday, the partners will break the ground for the plant at Shuaiba, an area with an oil refinery and port.

40 kilometres south of Kuwait City.

The facility, scheduled for completion in mid-1997, will eventually produce 650,000 tonnes of ethylene a year. along with 450,000 tonnes of polyethylene and 350,000 tonnes of ethylene glycol.

Khaled Buhamrah, PIC's chairman and managing director, said the project was a "dream come true" that combines Kuwait's low-cost feedstock and U.S. state-ofthe-art technology.

He said a company will be set up in Bahrain to market the giant plant's products, mainly in Asia.

Mr. Buhamrah said Equate will coordinate its operations

with other companies in the Gulf which produce similar products because they all need to "satisfy the markets without hurting each other.'

COMPANY'S NAME

ARAB BANK PIC JORDAN NATIONAL

BANK OF JORDAN

CAIRO AMMAN BANK

THE HOUSING BANK JORDAN KUWAIT BANK

MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK.

JORDAN GULF BANK ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK

He said other joint ventures are in the offing, includ-ing an aromatics plant with Amoco. He did not elabo-

. The Equate plant will be built by foreign contracts, several of which have been awarded to Brown and Root Inc., Foster Wheeler Italiana and Fluor Daniel Inc.

The plant will provide jobs for some 800 people, mostly

Kuwaitis. Mr. Buhamrah said the ioint venture includes setting up a research and technology facility.

### Iran says oil deal with France is big loss for U.S.

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran boasted Saturday that its deal with France's Total oil company to develop offshore fields in the Gulf is a major defeat for the Clinton administration's campaign to throttle the Islamic republic.

Total, defying U.S. pressure to isolate Iran. announced Thursday that it had won the contract to develop the Sirri-A and Sirri-E fields after the Houstonbased U.S. oil giant Conoco was forced by Washington to scrap a deal it had made with Tehran in March through a Dutch subsidiary.

The official Islamic republic news agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the Tehran English-language Iran News daily as saying that by allow-

ing the contract with Total to go ahead, France has demonstrated its "political awareness and independent will."

After forcing Conoco to abandon the landmark agreement with the National Iranian Oil. Co. President Clinton imposed a blanket U.S. ban on all trade and financial dealings with Iran in an effort to pressure it into abandoning its alleged support for terrorism and alleged clandestine programme to acquire nuclear weapons.

The Americans urged their allies to follow suit. But so far only Israel and Uzbekistan have done so since the ban took effect June 6 and no one else shows any sign of joining the U.S. effort.

"The West has defied Clinton's trade and investment ban on Iran," the daily declared. "This defiance is ample proof of the humiliation suffered by the U.S. in the world political arena."

Under the new agreement, Total will be responsible for securing financing for all the project's costs, estimated at \$600 million.

Production is expected to begin in three years. The two fields', production capacity has been estimated at 120,000 barrels a day, of which Total will get about one-third in return for its investment.

Developing the two fields in the southern Gulf is crucial for Iran's drive to boost its oil production capacity and develop new fields. Oil exports account for some 90 per cent of Iran's revenue.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati Friday welcomed the agreement with Total, saying it was a boost for bilateral relations, Tehran Radio reported.

Speaking at a ceremony in Tehran to mark France's national day, Mr. Velayati described the deal as "a big step towards the expansion of bilateral ties" and said he hoped that there will be a similar expansion in other

"The Islamic Republic of Iran considers its relations with the Republic of France as permanent and long-term," Mr. Velayati said.

## Abu Dhabi to privatise public enterprises

ABU DHABI (AFP) -The Gulf emirate of Abu Dhabi is to sell off shares in public undertakings as part of a privatisation programme to diversify its oil-reliant economy, the official news agency WAM said Satur-

day. Shares worth more than one billion dirhams (\$272 million) will be sold in cement and other non-oil industrial concerns, Rahma Al Masud, chairman of Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry,

told the agency.

This stage will be followed with other stages to privatise some public services institutions. Their shares will be traded at the official stock exchange, which will be established

investors to participate in the privatisation programmes to push the develop-

ment process into a new phase,

Mr. Masud gave no details of the industries to be sold but the state-owned General Industry Corporation said early this year they would include cement, flour and plastic bag factories. Revenue from privatisation would be used in setting up other projects.

Kuwait, Oman and other gulf Arab states have launched privatisation programme while Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil power, has announced similar economic reforms to cushion the impact of weak crude In its 1994 annual report

released Saturday, the Abu Dhabi chamber said the emirate had allocated soon," he said. "We invite all national around 48 billion dirhams (\$13 billion) for development projects between 1993

It said Abu Dhabi's economy grew by 2.9 per cent in 1994 and the trade balance surplus increased to around \$6 billion from \$5.7 billion in 1993. It forecast a 24.3 per cent growth in trade until 1996.

JORDAN

Abu Dhabi is the main oil producer in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), with an output of around 1.8 million barrels per day, accounting for more than 80 per cent of the country's total crude production.

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Financial Markets

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French Franc	6.43	6.28	6.10	6.03
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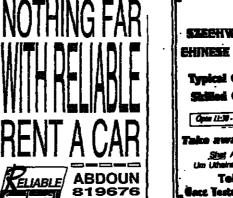


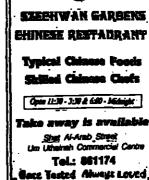
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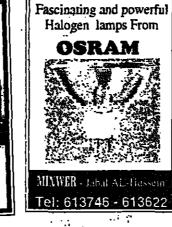






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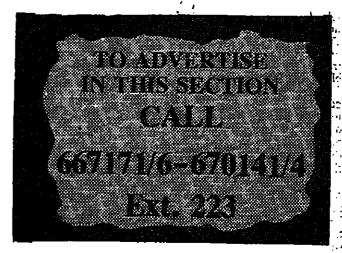












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# U.S. stun Argentina 3-0

PAYSANDU, Uruguay (R) — The United States scored a stunning 3-0 win over Argentina to reach the quarter-finals of the Copa America on Friday.

Goals by striker Frank Klopas and defender Aiexei Lalas put the Americans 2-0 ahead at naiftime with Eric Wynalda adding the third in the second half.

Wynalda's goal, his third in the competition, meant the United States finished the first round top of Group C on goal difference and condemned Argentina, who finished second. to a quarter-final clash with Brazil in Rivera on Monday.

The United States created only a few genuine attempts on goal but took full advantage of the chances that came their way. Argentina, on the other hand, created a wealth of scoring opportunities but were let cown by woeful finishing from their forwards, including the normally lethel Gabriel Batistu-

Argentina coach Daniel Passarella, with his team already assured of a quarter-final place before the game, rested several of his top players including Jose Chamot, Fernando Caceres, Diego Simeone, Abel Balbo and Leonardo Astrada.

But he would still have expected at very least a draw, which would have allowed Argentina to finish top of the group and given them a relatively comfortable quarter-final against one of the best third-placed teams. Argentina, who had won their first two games and looked unstoppable as they hammered Chile 4-0 on Tuesday, often intimidate

other South American teams with a physical approach to the game. On Friday, they were given a taste of their own medicine by a U.S. team that fought hard for every ball, clearly ruffling the South

Americans. Passarella's plans began to go wrong in the 21st minute when a loose ball rebounded to Klopas and he scored from the edge of a penalty area with a shot which went through a defender's legs and caught Argentine goal-

keeper Carlos Bossio unsighted. Eleven minutes later, disaster struck for Argentina when winger Cobi Jones dribbled an Argentine player and hit in a low, hard cross from the by-line. Lalas, who played last season for Italian League side Padova, sneaked in at the near post to flick the ball into the net.

At that stage, the American defence looked worbly and it still appeared that Argentina could turn the game around, with Batistuta and Alberto Acosta both missing good

chances before halftime.

Passarella attempted to beef up his side by bringing on midfielder Simeone and striker Ariel Ortega at halftime but the United States tightened up their defence, giving Argentina fewer chances..

Argentina were still top of the group on goal difference until Wynalda struck in the 59th minute, scoring after Greg Berhalter beat Bossio and defender Roberto Ayala to the ball and slipped a pass to him in front of

an empty goal.

That gave the United States a goal difference of plus three, against Argentina's plus

### Copa America

Marcelo Gallardo and Gabriel Schurrer both had chances to score and put Argentina back on top of the group but Gallardo mis-hit his effort and U.S. goalkeeper Kasey Keller made one of several good saves to Deny

The United States will face Mexico, whom they recently beat 4-0 in the U.S. Cup. in their quarter-final.

Friday's results meant that Mexico and Bolivia qualified as the two best third-placed teams. Écuador, third in Group B, were

Bolivia qualify after a late comeback

Meanwhile Bolivia scored two goals in the last twelve minutes to snatch a 2-2 draw with Chile and qualify for the quarter-finals. Substitute Mauricio Ramos dribbled be-

tween two Chilean defenders and scored with a powerful shot into the roof of the net from an awkward angle to equalise two minutes from the end of the first round, Group C

Ten minutes earlier, Miguel Mercado, who also came on as a substitute, had scored Bolivia's first goal, scrambling the ball over the line from Marco Etcheverry's pass.

Striker Ivo Basay had scored twice within six minutes early in the second half, to give Chile a two-goal lead as the game came to life after a disappointing first half.
Bolivia completed their group games with

four points, enough to ensure they would qualify for the quarter-finals.

Chile, without real Madrid striker Ivan Zamorano who declined to take part in the tournament because he wanted a rest, finished bottom of the group and were eliminated.

## **Nantes** striker Loko joins **PSG**

PARIS (R) - Patrice Loko. the French League's leading scorer last season, is joining Paris St. Germain from champions Nantes, the Paris club said on Saturday.

The clubs have agreed the move and loko was set to sign a four-year contract later on Saturday.
French Cup winner PSG, who lost their league title to

Nantes last season, have now made five signings for the new campaign starting on

Their two main strikers have departed. Liberian George Weah joining AC Milan and Daviod Ginola moving to English Premier league club Newcastle.

They have now been re-

placed by Loko. who scored 22 league goals for Nantes last season, and Panamanian striker Julio Cesar Dely Valdes, who joined from Italian side Cagliari.

Lygn defender Bruno Ngotty, Mgnaco midfielder Youri Djorkaeff and Bordeaux midfielder Laurent Fournier have also joined the ambitious Paris side, who have reached the semifinals of European club competitions in each of the past three

"Our goal is to regain the title and to win the European Cup Winners' Cup and I believe we can do it," said Deputy Chairman Michel Denisot.

Loko, who now misses the chance of playing in the Champions' Cup, said: "I feel that Paris have more ambitions than Nantes. Nantes are a good side, Paris are a great side."

### **SPORTS IN BRIEF**

### Ski champ dies in road smash

ANNECY, France (AFP) - Sergei Shupletsov, the Russian freestyle skiing champion, was killed in a road accident near here late Friday, police said. Shupletsov, 25, died when his motorbike and a car collided near his home close to the La Clusaz skiing resort. Shupletsov, 25, who recently married French freestyle skiing champion Ingrid Goy, won the 1995 World Cup in freestyle skiing's moguls discipline. He was second in the event at the 1995 World Championships and took the bronze medal at the 1994 Lillehammer Olympics.

### Maradona begins training

BUENOS AIRES (AP) - Diego Maradona began training Friday with his old team, Boca Juniors, and scores a goal during a practice game. After training Maradona told reporters he felt "very tired, but I have the same vision and much more experience than 15 years ago," when he helped Boca win the Argentine League. Maradona is suspended until September following positive tests for stimulants during the 1994 World Cup. The season is scheduled to begin Aug. 6 and he would miss the first seven weeks. Local press reports said Boca will ask the Argentine football association to postpone the start of the season until Sept. 30 so Maradona can play from the beginning. "Let's keep our fongers crossed." Boca coach Silvio Marzolini said Boca hopes to sign forward Claudio Caniggia, who played last season with Benfica of Lisbon.

### Medvedeva into semifinals

PALERMO (AP) — Natalia Medvedeva upset top-seeded Karina Hasbudova 3-6. 6-4. 6-3 Friday to move into the semifinals of the \$107,500 Torneo International. In another quarterfinal match between unseeded players. Austrian Barbara Schett made short work of Czech-born German Veronika Martinek 6-3, 6-1, Medvedeva, the No. 7 seed in the Sicilian clay-court event, won the decisive third set when Habsudova, a Slovak ranked 27th on the WTA tour computer, made an series of unforced errors in the last

### Chavez, Randall share spotlight

LAS VEGAS (AFP) — Legendary Mexican Julio Cesar Chavez and the only man ever to beat him — American Frankie Randall — will defend their respective world light-welterweight titles on the same bill here on September 16. Chavez, who has won 94 bouts against one draw and the January 1994 defeat inflicted by Randall, will defend his

World Boxing Council (WBC) title against unbeaten American David Kamau. Randall stakes his World Boxing Association (WBA) crown in a rematch against former world title-holder Juan MartinCoggi of Argentina. There will be two other world contests on the programme. Frank Liles of the United States defends his WBA supermiddleweight title against Brazil's Mauricio Amaral and compatriot Carl Daniels puts his WBA light-middleweight title on the line against Argentina's Julio Cesar Vasquez.

### Sir Stan to play again at 80

LONDON (AFP) — Soccer legend Sir Stanley Matthews is to play again — at the age of 80! The former England wing wizard, won 54 caps from the age of 19 to the unbelievable age of 41, will play 15 minutes for Beazer Homes League club Clevedon Town in a friendly match against Bristol City on Sunday, July 30. Clevedon's manager. Steve Fey, e sooke at a dinner in town early in the summer. "It was a bit cheeky but as a joke I asked him if he would consider signing on as a player for said Fey. "I nearly fell backwards when he said 'yes' but I jumped at the chance. I had a Beazer League registration form with me, hoping to sign another player, so I got Sir Stanley to sign it there and then. "I asked him what he had earned in the 1953 FA Cup final and he told me 4.18 shillings. "I offered him double that, threw in a little extra and got him for a tenner. It has to be the steal of the century.!

### Shot putter banned

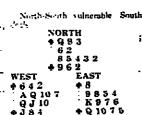
LONDON (AFP) - British shot putter Guy Marshall was suspended on Saturday after testing positive to "proscribed substances" at an inter-area match in May. The result of 23-year-old Marshall's B samples confirmed that of his A sample, the British Athletic Federation (BAF) said in a statment. Tony Ward, spokesman for the BAF, said: "It's always disappointing to get a drugs findings, but it does show the efficiency of our testing system." Marshall was ranked 54th in British last year.

### Rangers to sign Romanian star

GLASGOW (AFP) - Rangers manager Walter Smith confirmed on Saturday that he is in negotiations with Spanish club Espanol to sign the Romanian World Cup star Florin Raducioiu. Smith is hoping to clinch a 2.7 million (about 4.4 million dollars) deal with Barcelona club Espanol for the striker which, coupled with the 4.3 million for Paul Gascoigne, would take the Ibrox club's summer spending to seven million pounds.

### **GOREN BRIDGE**

FAKED OUT BY FINESSES





finesse. The expert searches for ways to swiid one. This deal is from a team match between a star team and a squad of hopefuls.

Four spades was the final contract at both tables, on similar anctions. Two clubs was artificial and forcing, two diamends negative and two spades natural. North's jump to four spades showed good trump support, but denied a side first- or second-round control, so South relactantly tossed in the towel.

The lead was the same at the two

The lead was the same at the two tables—the queen of dismonds. At one table declarer won, led a low trump to the nine and finessed the jack of hearts. West won with the queen and returned a trump. Declarer won in dummy and tried a heart to the lung. That lost to the ace and West removed dummy's last.

clarer lost a third heart and a club for down one.

At the other table the expert de-clarer took advantage of the friendly lead to land the contract and there was nothing the defenders could do about it. Since South could afford to lose two hearts and a club, declarer immediately led a heart from hand after winning the diamond. West won cheaply and returned a trump, but South was in charge.

The anada was won in distingny

The spade was won in dummy and a heart to the jack lost to the queen. West persevered with a transp. Declarer won in band, ruffed a heart, came to hand with a diamond ruff and draw the last trump. Eventually, declarer conceded a club. trick, but that was the third and

# World Basketball Championship

# Australia defeat Jordan 78-35

By Aleen Bannayan Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Australia scored a convincing 78-35 victory over Jordan's Under-18 national basketball team Friday evening in the concluding match of the preliminary round at the 5th Junior World Basketball Championship current-

ly underway in Greece. While Jordan maintained a close score with the team that beat both titleholders the U.S. and runners-up Italy, Australia took total control of the match widening their 18-14 lead to 40-18 at the end of the first half.

Australia scored from fast breaks and turnovers to end the match with a big

Jordan's Zeid Alkhas scored 15, and Ma'an Odeh 10. In their first two matches , the Kingdom's team

had lost 61-51 to the U.S. and 87-64 to Italy.

. Sixteen countries are competing in the championship.

Group A includes China, Venezuela, Lithuania, and Croatia. Group B includes Nigeria, S. Korea, Argentina and France, Group C includes Australia, Italy, the U.S. and Jordan. Group D includes Angola, Puerto Rico, Greece and Spain.

Jordan, the third place finisher in the Asian Championship in March, is representing the continent along with China and S. Korea.

The Australian team, who had finished at a disappointing 11th place in the 1992 championship, are now the unbeaten team in Group C after upsetting the U.S. 71-69 and Italy 74-66.

Other results came as fol-

Croatia-Venezuela 78-71 Lithuania-China 85-70 Group B

Argentina-Nigeria 58-35

France-S. Korea 68-58 Group C U.S.-Italy 75-61 Group D

Błocks

Free throws

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ain-Puerto Rico 49-34 ecce-Angola 132-58 The U-18 team is the first represent Jordan in a orld championship, and	Gnoshen, Zayao	
Match	Statistics Jordan	Austral
Fouls Fast Breaks Rebounds Assists	22 3/12 34 4	17- 16/21 52 20

# Seles enters: Open

NEW YORK (AFP) — Monica Seles officially en-tered the U.S. Open on Friday, lining up her first Grand Slam tennis appearance since she was stabbed in the back in 1993.
"We couldn't be hap-

pier," said U.S. Tennis Association spokeswoman Page Crosland.
"We were anticipating it.

We've been waiting for her and we're delighted." It is not yet known if Seles will be seeded. whether she will have a ranking that would put her in the main draw or whether she will be given a

wild-card. "The only thing we know is that she has applied for entry and it was received today," Crosland said. Seles won eight Grand Slam titles, including two U.S. Opens in a row, be-

fore she was stabbed April 30, 1993 in Hamburg, Ger-She was ranked number one in the world when the stabbing occurred, but has

since dropped out of the

A proposal to co-rank her at number one upon her return to competition was rejected by several top players at a WTA Tour meeting during Wimble-don, although WTA Tour

rankings.



Monica Seles

président Martina Navratilova, now-retired from singles play, was in favour of the special status.

Seles will launch her comeback with an exhibition match against Navratilova on July 29 in Atlantic City. New Jersey. Her competition schedule after that is not yet

Christie

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BIRMINGHAM (R)

heats

Saturday.

# Graf's lawyers respond to tax probe

BERLIN (AP) — Wimbledon champion Steffi Graf's lawyers on Friday said investigators are ignorant of her tax situation, and the world's top-ranked woman player said she trusted her father's management of her financial affairs.

Graf, 26, and her father, Peter Graf, are suspected of tax evasion. German newspapers reported this week. Authorities confirm that investigators searched the Graf family villa in Bruehl in Southern Germany on May 23 and seized documents, but have not spelled out the nature of suspicions.

Graf, one of Germany's most popular sports idols. said in a statement issued by her public relations agency. Advantage International. that she chose to keep her residence in Germany and understood her responsibility to pay German taxes.

"From the first day of my career, I hired my father to handle my financial affairs and I trust that he did so correctly. Therefore, I was very surprised when this tax issue arose. I have always intended to fulfill all of my tax obligations," she said. Other German sports stars have taken residence in

Monaco, a tax Haven, to avoid Germany's high taxes. Graf's fortune from winnings and endorsements in her 13-year career is estimated in the German Press at 100 million marks (\$70 million), and her tennis winnings this year alone are \$1,388,855.

Lawyers for the Graf fami-

ly issued a statement accusing the authorities of improper behavior in the May 23 search and of causing Graf likely financial losses by making the investigation known. "Important circumstances regarding the taxation of Miss Steffi Graf are not

said a statement issued by lawyers Kurt Himmelsbach and eddo Compart. It said she was taxed not only in Germany but also in the United States, Britain, France and Australia, and that her returns had been cleared with the responsible tax authorities in the cities of

known" by the investigators.

Karlsruhe and Stuttgart. 'As soon as we are given access to the files ... all questions of doubt will be clarified," it said.

On Wednesday; the pro-secutor in Mannheim handling the case, Peter Wechsung, said it would take documents to determine whether to raise charges. Graf is scheduled to launch

months to examine the seized

a line of sportswear in Berlin next Tuesday, resolving the mystery of the red "S" logo she wore on her sleeve as she won her sixth Wimbledon title last week. It is to be the logo of the "Steffi Graf Collection" of clothing.

A severe tangle with the tax authorities could damage Graf's commercial value in endorsements.

Her lawyers' statement said, "damages could go into the millions because of the announcement of the investigation." It said the lawyers feel German tax authorities will lose money on the case.

Meanwhile, tax authorities said Friday they are investigating the manager of For-mula One champion Michael Schumacher, the second German sports star affected by a tax probe this week. Stuttgart prosecutor Ger-

not Blessing confirmed media reports that Schumacher's manager Willi Weber was the target of a probe. We are not conducting

any proceedings against Schumacher, that must be clear." Blessing said.

to qualify for the World Basketball Championship. Egypt finished last in Sao Paulo in 1979 while Syria came in 12th among 16 in the 1992 championship in de Canada. Jordan's team includes y Zeid Alkhas, Ma'an Odeh, b

A.s hraf Samarah, b Mahmoud Sha'ban, Samer n Ning Ihab Msih, Ramzi p Saqaa;.

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in 10.93 seconds and missed going through to the semifinals as one of the fastest los-The 35-year-old Christie, who had won the event for

the past four years Christie, who defends his

world title in Gothenburg next month, refused to comment but British Athletics Federation spokesman Tony Ward said: "Linford has been suffering from a tight tendon behind the right knee all week. He tried to cruise it but eased down too much at the

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World and Olympic 100 metres champion Linford ти Мападара» Christie failed to qualify from Contract to the second the heats at the British' Tenante ine National Championships on industrial Char Christie, who eased up idenons has near the line, finished fourth 1 te ce le-3 3 275.1 go

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# Jalabert magnificent in victory

MENDE, France (AFP) — Frenchman Laurent Jalabert node the race of the Tour de France here on Friday winning the 222-kilometre 12th stage from St. Etienne having broken away from the main group after only 20-

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; Jalabert's victory was most opportune coming on France's traditional Bastille Day celebrations. While that day in 1789 haggard prisoners were released and the unfortunate governor lost his head. this day in 1995 Jalabert was not in such a generous mood to release anybody from his leading group and left the race's governor Miguel Indurain with a sweaty brow, but with his lead intact.

The charismatic Jalabert said after the stage: "Perhaps it was suicide to go after 20 kilometres but it was Bastille

Jalabert asked how he would celebrate, before making his traditional post stage telephone call to his wife, said: "There will certainly be some fireworks."

Jalabert, who held the yellow jersey earlier in the race until losing the lead in a crash on the fourth stage, was helped by two formidable eammates, Australian Neil Stephens and Spaniard Mel-⊯ior Mauri.

Indurain tried to breach the gap and got within 15 seconds but from then on the six man group pulled away. At one stage Jalabert was on course to take the overall lead but with only Stephens and Mauri unselfishly doing the work the other three members of the group were content to be towed along.

The other three were Massimo Podenzana who finished second, Dario Bottaro and Andrea Peron.

Stephens was dropped on the penultimate ascent, having done a magnificent job.

but Mauri eighth overall and fifth in the stage kept the momentum going.

The peloton was behaving strangely as not just the Banesto team but also the Novell team of Djamolodine Abdujaparov set the pace to claw back the leaders. These were strange tactics to employ as surely the objective for the other participants was for Indurain's team to do all the work as he was the man most in danger.

drip fed for weeks and given a virtual new set of teeth could not hold on after such a long Scarlet Pimpernel type

Thankfully the answer for those who indulge in romanticism the answer was yes he could and at the finish he raised his arms to a roar that has scarcely been bettered since France won the 1984 European Football Cham-

Behind the victor the pelo-

### **Tour de France**

Abdujaparov on the other hand had no chance of gain-ing any points in the battle for the green jersey which Jalabert holds.

The gap kept on declining and with Jalabert and Mauri continuing to do the work it appeared that they were setting up victory for one of the hangers on. Jalabert though is no longer just a flat stage rider with a mean sprint finish in him and he seized his chance on the final climb bursting clear with only Daniele Bottaro capable of giving chase.

The thought crossed the mind that surely this man who so narrowly escaped death last year in the stage to Armentieres and had to be ton split at the start of the final climb. Marco Pantani victor of Alpe d'Huez on Wednesday tried to steal a march on Indurain, but the big Spaniard emotionless as ever calmly swept him up dismissed Swiss Alex Zulle only to have Dane Bjarne

Riis's attentions were less focussed on taking time off Indurain as retaining his third spot overall which was en-dangered by Jalabert. Hard as Riis cycled he was unable to avert his fall from the podium places.

just perhaps this tour is not all over yet.

Riis on his shoulder:

Jalabert's victory though will go down as one of the greatest ever and perhaps,

14:20

14:59

16:35

16:36

17:22

18:54

I. Miguel Indurain (Spa) 2. Alex Zulle (Swi) 3. Laurent Jalabert (Fra)

Overali standings

4. Bjarne Riis (Den) 5. Melchor Mauri (Spa) 6. Tony Rominger (Swi) 7. Ivan Gotti (Ita) 8. Marco Pantanai (Ita) 9. Fernando Escartin (Spa)

10. Claudio Chiappucci (Ita) 11. Richard Virengue (Fra) 12. Pavel Tonkov (Rus) 13. Laurent Madouss (Fra) 14. Erik Breukink (Ned)

15. Laurent Dufaux (Swi)

52hr 46min 51 sec 2:44 3:35 6:00 8:56

# Egypt book place in African Nations' Cup finals

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - Egypt booked a place at the 1996 African Nation's Cup finals despite being held to a 1-1 draw at home by Algeria in a Group 4 qualifying match on Friday night.

The Pharaohs, who have lifted the cup three times, top the standings with 13 points followed by Algeria with 11, Uganda with eight and Tanzania, Sudan and Ethiopia

Algeria complete their 10vatch programme on July 28 as home to Tanzania and a victory would assure them a berth at the 16-nation tournament, which begins January

13 in South Africa. Ghana, champions a record four times, Sierra Leone, Gabon, Zambia and Burkina Faso have already reached the biennial finals, while hosts South Africa and holiers Nigeria were automa-

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The Cairo result was a personal triumph for former Algerian star Ali Fergani, who replaced Rabah Madjer as coach after the national team was held at home by Uganda last month.

With home advantage and the partisan backing of a near-capacity 100,000 crowd at the Nasser Stadium, Egypt 1-0 defeat in Algiers last January.

But it was the visitors who struck first as veteran forward Kaci Said gained possession on the edge of the penalty area in the 42nd minute, turned a defender and slammed the ball into the roof of the net.

The goal stung the lethargic Egyptians to life and a series of second-half assaults on the Algerian goalmouth paid off in the 61st minute when Ibrahim Al-Masry equalised with his first cup

Al-Masry rounded two defenders before sending a

swirling shot past the slowreacting Algerian goalkeep-ers to ensure Egypt retained their unbeaten home record in the qualifying competition.

Algeria caused another scare among local supporters soon after the equaliser when a long-range shot flew just over the crossbar with the Egyptian goalkeeper beaten.

The first match between the countries in Cairo since an ill-tempered World Cup tie six years' ago went off without incident and it was played in good spirit.

Concerned about the threat of violence, the authorities placed thousands of police and troops in riot gear inside the giant stadium in the heart of the Egyptian

Mauritania, one of the weakest African football nations, broke a 10-year victory drought in the competition by defeating Togo 2-1 in Group 2 match in Nouakchott.

# Fans want Ferguson to resign

MANCHESTER (AFP) -Alex Ferguson should resign as Manchester United's manager according to a poll conducted here on Friday among the team's disillusioned fans.

The shock verdict was delivered by the Manches-ter Evening News, who set up a phone-in to debate the manager's future.

Ferguson's record over the last six seasons has been extraordinary - but 53 per cent of the callers (465) said he should go while 47 per cent (418) said he should stay.

Fans have been angered by the close-season sales of Paul Ince to Inter Milan and Mark Hughes to Chelsea after losing the Premiership title to Blackburn and the FA Cup to Everton. Andrei Kanchelskis will almost certainly be the next to leave.

Ferguson's attempt to lure Tottenham and England star winger Darren Anderton failed when the youngster signed a four year contract with Spurs on Thursday.

The majority of callers agreed with a statement. which appeared under the headline: "Should Fergie leave the club?"

The statement read: Something is wrong at Manchester United. There has never been a close season like this one and it follows the disappointments of last season when the Reds ended up winning nothing after being so close to landing another double

of League and FA Cup. But if the fans thought it would end there, they were wrong. For one crowd-pleaser after another has left the club -

"First Paul Ince went to Inter Milan; then Mark Hughes was off to Chelsea. Now Andrei Kanchelskis seems to be on his way.

or seems to be on the brink

"He is quoted as saying that his heart is with United but he can't stay 'for one simple reason — the manager'. What is wrong? Could it be that it is time for a

change of manager. "Some fans will be saying it is, and you can understand them. The biggest club in Britain wants success and maybe a change at the helm is what is needed

Ferguson has had personal problems with players in the past, most notably with Republic of Ireland's world class centre back paul McGrath. Ferguson controversially sold him to Aston Villa suggesting that his traditionally weak knees would not last

much longer. Two World Cup Finals later people may find that synopsis rather hard to swallow.

Ince, no stranger to knowing how to counter attack as he is a cousin of World Boxing champion Nigel Benn, was bitter about the way he felt was forced to leave Old Trafford and rejected Ferguson's version that he had actively sought to join Inter

Ferguson was quoted earlier in the Ince transfer saga as believing it was a good move for the player and Manchester United. Ince himself had always publicly declared that he did not wish to leave United and he disliked the style in which the Italians

played their football. Kanchelskis' rift with Ferguson has been public for some time but his manager was particularly irritated when the Ukrainian born Russian international returned from international duty complaining about a mystery stomach injury.

Ferguson had him checked by several doctors and nothing was discovered but Kanchelskis refused to play as he insisted he was iniured.

The inspirational winger was a member of the 'Russian rebles' that refused to go to last year's World Cup finals owing to a disagreement with the coach.

After failing to deliver a trophy last season Ferguson knows he is under pressure in the coming months, despite winning two Premiership titles, the FA Cup twice, the League Cup and the European Cup

Winners' Cup. That is the nature of the job when one manages a massive club like Manchester United and he knows that. But the thought of him not being at the helm for the foreseeable future seems incomprehensible.

# Women's national basketball team, strapped for cash, might miss chance to 'make history'

By Aleen Bannayan Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — July 23-31 will hopefully go down as a memorable week for Jordanian basketball as it would be the first time the women's national basketball team competes in the Asian Women's Cham-pionship to be held in Shizuoka, Japan.

That is, however, if the team comes up with at least JD 4,500 in the coming four days.

Because of the shortage of funds, the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) Saturday also asked the team's coach to name only 10 players on the team instead of the usual 12. With less than a week

remaining for their scheduled departure, the team is practicing hard hoping that obstacles will be solved in the coming two days.

The JBF's women's bas-

which he predicted "will be a

Rain in Saturday's final

qualifying prevented anyone

from improving on his pole time from the first session

Hill's great rival, the Ger-

man world champion Michael

Schumacher, shares the front

row of the grid, with Hill's

Scottish teammate David

Coulthard and Austrian

Gerhard Berger in a Ferrari on the second row.

Schumacher goes into the

eight race of the 17 race

season leading the 1995 championship by 11 points

the final qualifying session, and intermittent showers dur-

ing it, meant that no im-

provements were possible

onthe times set in dry weath-

The top six were com-

pleted by Schumacher's Brit-

ish teammate Johnny Herbert

and Berger's teammate, the

spectacular French driver

Schumacher, Berger and

Herbert all had spins during

the session, Herbert's car en-

ding in a tyre barrier, but

The German said he was

"a bit disappointed that the

weather wasn't better, as we

had some problems yester-

day. We found solutions last

night" and he said he would like to have tested them on a dry

Hill said with a smile that

"I can hardly say I'm unhap-

py. And I'm very pleased we

got something done for the

spectators, with a bit of spec-

deal to me. I've started a few

times from pole this season

and the position has been

reversed in the race, and I'll

have to do something about

the hopes of the British fans here. "There were 37,000

spectators on Friday, 40,000

on Saturday and Sunday has

been a 90,000 seat sell out for

"It's an opportunity I

gratefully accept and enjoy.

said Hill. "I hope it's dry

tomorrow and that we see a

He recalled that he and

With more showers pre-

very exciting motor race."

Schumacher had been very

close during testing here, and

I expect it to be a thriller."

dicted for Sunday, Hill said

"I don't mind the damp, but

not if it's raining very heavi-

His wife Georgie is expect-

ing their third child at any

moment, and Hill said he

was been "ringing home all

the time but there's no

answer." He grinned and said

Schumacher said Benetton

was prepared for either a dry

or wet race, but that he did

not like the uncertainties of

The drivers had run very

limited laps on Saturday

afternoon, and Hill and Schu-

macher were asked if they did

not have an obligation to the

spectators to put on a better

"I'm a bit worried."

mixed weather.

weeks.

Hill said he "hopes to fulfil

The pole means a great

tacular driving for them.

with only minor damage.

er on Friday.

Jean Alesi.

Heavy rain shortly before

thriller.'

ketball committee. the players and the coach have been running a fund-raising campaign for the past month after being told that they should come up with the money (nearly JD 13,000) to cover their air fare as the JBF had utilised almost JD 65,000 on the youth (under-18) team's preparations for the World Championship cur-rently under way in

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the team's fund-raising committee thanked all the sponsors and donors who have so far contributed JD 5.600 but said another 4,500 at least was needed to cover the rest of the cost. The JBF was only able to provide JD 2.300 and is still awaiting the Ministry of Youth's contribution as well as

some other pledges. "Some people and institutions have been very understanding, and have almost made our trip come true," coach Fadi Sabbah said. "However we are still short of our target. Among those who sup-

ported the team were: the Arab Banking Corporation, Jordan Express, the Jordan Kuwait Bank, the Business Bank, Astra Co., Kamil Saaduddin, Rafik Hamarneh, the Union Bank, JETT, the Cairo Amman Bank, Nael Kawar, the British Bank of the Middle East, the Sabbagh Group, the Housing Bank, the Bank of Jordan, Fine Company, Ahmad Tijani and Elba.

Friends and families of players joined the fundraising effort by finding understanding contacts who were willing to help. The team also organised a quiz night and urged fans to attend their matches against Syria's Al Jala' who recently concluded a weeklong visit to the Kingdom.

After having trained for the past six months, the players cannot but help feel that they have been treated in an offhand manner despite the fact that their participation would make history as Jordan has lacked a women's team since 1983 and they will be the only

Arab team among 13 coun-

With no courts reserved for practice, the team members said they have been training wherever one was available, and have not asked the JBF for any expenses usually paid for national team players. Some team members were told by their university professors that they would have to drop their summer

course if they travel. The Jordanian team will be playing in Level B with. teams from Indonesia, Hong Kong, India, Kyrgizstan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Level A includes China, Korea,

Kazakhstan and Taiwan.

Because of the JBF's limited budget, the team only had four practice matches of the 12-10 the coach had requested to be arranged prior to departure. Jordan beat visiting Syrian champions Al Jala twice and lost two games with the same team.

The fact that the team visibly improved from one match to another shows that the players have adapted to each other's play and only need more matches to complete their preparations. Four matches against a Ukrainian team were recently cancelled.

The team includes Rana Husseini, Suhair Makusi, Tala Al Mauje, Jumana Salti, Jehan Abdulnour. Rania Daiani, Sirsa Naghway, Hala Muheisen, Hind Ghouri, Andeira Kasisieh, Tetiana Qardan and Zein Sha'sha'a.

### Hill keeps Russian pole in ends Sergi's rainy session fun run SILVERSTONE, England (AFP) — Britain's Damon Hill, driving a Williams Renault, held pole position for Sunday's British Grand Prix,

(Agencies) — Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov ended a three-year run of success for Spain's Sergi Bruguera, defeating the third seed 6-4, 6-3 to reach the final of the \$550,000 Swiss Open Satur-

Second-seeded Kafelnikov, the world number seven, needed less than an hour to claim a final place against Jakob Hlasek who defeated Marc Rosset 6-3,

Kafelnikov, 21, was domi-nant under cloudy skies at the 1,100m high venue, levelling his career record against the 24-year-old Spaniard at 2-2. "I never thought that I, could beat Sergi on clay," he

said. ' 'I played unvelievably. I really thought I had almost no chance today.' Bruguera had not lost in 18 matches at Gstaad, winning the title for the last three

years, but his form has yet to

recover five months after undergoing knee surgery. "I feel no pain in the knee but I am not playing at my best," he said. "I have played poorly here all week. After losing the first set.

Bruguera was broken 0-2. He settled into his rhythm but it was too late. Kefelnikov produced a ser-

vice winner in the ninth game for match point, then sent a backhand to the Spaniard's feet to earn his fourth final place of 1995.



Yevgeny Kafelnikov

"This is my best win ever 'on clay," he said. Hlasek upset Swiss Davis Cup Rosset 6-3 6-4 in the other semifinal.

Hlasek, ranked eighth in the world in 1988 but now down to 124th, entered the tournament on a wild card.

silver medalist in the 1988

Olympics, has held the world

record of 43.29 seconds in the

nearly 21/2 years after he

allegedly tested positive for

But the 30-year-old looked back to his best with a fine dislay of serve-and-volley tennis against his fourthseeded compatriot.

Rosset, six years younger, failed to get his booming first serve working and was overpowered in just 75 minutes.

tests in my life... I think it's

an invasion of privacy for

people to come to my door

Hlasek now plays his first final since 1991 when he beat

John McEnroe in Basle. "I was thinking of retiring if I was beaten here in the early rounds," said Hlasek. "The crowd was behind me as the underdog and that inspired me."

## Reynolds gets unannounced visit from IAAF

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Two representatives of the governing body of international track and field made an unannounced visit to the home of track star Butch Reynolds to request a urine sample, according to a broadcast report.

On Friday, WCMH-TV in Columbus said Reynolds gave the sample Thursday to the representatives from the International Amateur Athletic Federation at his home in Westerville, then went to a local hospital for an independent urine analysis. Nursing supervisor Mercy Ovuworie confirmed that Reynolds had his urine tested

at St. Ann's Hospital and said she could not comment on the results of the test. Reynolds, 30, a gold and

steroids. He denies ever taking steroids and is continuing to compete. He finished second in the 400 in last month's national championships at Sacramento, Calif., and will be on the U.S. team for this year's World Championships at Goteborg, Sweden.

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land.

"I'm all for drug testing," he told the television station.

unannounced when I'm en-400 metres since 1988, when tertaining guests.... it's an he set it in Zurich, Switzerinvasion of my constitutional The former Ohio state Messages requesting comathlete has been in a legal ment were left Friday night at battle with the IAAF since it Reynolds' telephone number suspended him in 1990 for

and at the office of his Columbus attorneys. A man answering the telephone at the IAAF offices in Monaco said he could not speak En-On Nov. 5, 1990, the IAAF suspended Reynolds from all competition until

Aug. 12, 1992. It said a urine specimen believed to have come from Reynolds tested positive for nandrolone, a banned steroid, after a meet in Monaco on Aug. 12, 1990. Reynolds said the test was faulty.

He fought the suspension in the courts and on June 20, 1992, was granted an emergency order from a U.S. Supreme Court justice that allowed him to run in the U.S. Olympic trials. He failed to qualify for the Olympics and had the suspension extended until Jan. 1, 1993, by the IAAF, which said his participation in the trials was not in the best

interest of the sport. Reynolds was reinstated after the suspension ended, but continued to request damages and penalties from the IAAF for the period he was sidelined.

Reynolds also sued the IAAF in federal court in Columbus. He said its public announcement of the test result defamed him, denied him due process and cost him The IAAF presented no

defence, saying the court had no jurisdiction.

A U.S. district court judge ordered the IAAF to pay Reynolds 27.4 million, but a federal appeals court overturned the decision.

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# Yemen offers Egypt a security pact

ALEXANDRIA (Agencies)
— Yemen, accused by Cairo of links to militants in Egypt, has proposed a security cooperation deal between the two countries, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh said here Saturday.

"There is a project for security cooperation between Egypt and Yemen to guarantee the security and stability of both peoples," Mr. Saleh said at a joint press confer-ence with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"Yemen made this proposal several days ago. I cannot speak about the texts themselves now but as soon as we arrive at a final formula it will be announced," Mr. Mubarak said.

The two leaders held a second day of talks here on Saturday, before Mr. Mubarak escorted Mr. Saleh to the Mediterranean coastal city's airport.
The Yemeni president arrived Friday in Egypt on the last leg of a tour which has taken him to Qatar, Syria and Jordan

Their talks focused on

reestablishing Arab solidarity" shattered by the 1990-1991 Gulf conflict, the two leaders said. "We discussed a number of

matters on how to return the waters to their course," Mr. Saleh said. There have been a flurry of

contacts between Cairo and Sanaa since the attempt on Mr. Mubarak's life on June 26 in Addis Ababa and Egyptian accusations that some of the gunmen had Yemeni

passports. Egyptian security services have several times said that Egyptian militants coming from Pakistan have passed through Yemen before arriv-

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fares, you're guaranteed a service that will suit you perfectly.

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ing in Egypt. The charges have been denied by Sanaa. "We condemn all acts of violence and terrorism in any country," Mr. Saleh said. No country should allow its lands to open up to terror-

Yemen handed over to Egypt some suspects last year and Cairo has not recently aired any grievance against

Mr. Saleh said he had detected a "complete Arab awakening," with all states keen to undo the damage which the Gulf war did to

Arab unity.
"I found the same feeling (in all the countries) and it's a positive phenomenon that everyone is seeking to pick up the pieces which the war left. We must stand together." he said.

Yemen was sympathetic towards Iraq during the war

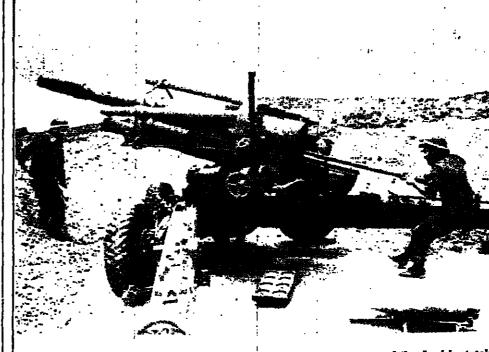
Salch managed to mend relations with Saudi Arabia.

"Clearing the air in the Arab World is of the essence," said Mr. Mubarak. "The Yemeni-Saudi disputes are on their way to being solved and there's flexibility on both sides."

Both presidents said they favoured strengthening the Arab League as the institu-tion for joint Arab action.

Mr. Saleh met earlier Saturday with Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abdul Meguid to discuss ways of healing lingering rifts with the Arab World following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Mr. Saleh expressed his "desire to clear the atmosphere in the Arab World and restore Arab solidarity" Mr. Abdul Meguid told reporters.



HEAVY ARMOUR: Members of Israel's South of Jezzine in the centre of the Jewish state's Lebanese Army (SLA) clean heavy artillery self-declared security zone in South Lebanon unit on a hill protecting the access to the town (AFP photo)

# Al Ahd says it won 79 municipal seats

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The progovernment Al Ahd party Saturday announced that 79 candidates of the 100 candidates party fielded in the last week's municipal elections had won.

The head of the party, Abdul Hadi Majali, told that the party did not publish the names of its candidates before the elections because

they feared they might lose.
"We were afraid that we would lose 15 per cent of the votes if we announced the names of our candidates before the elections," Mr. Majali said. "But next time, we

will announce the names a month earlier." Al Ahd, which advocates peace with Israel, lost the mayorship in Madaba, Karak and Salt but won in Ma'an. Out of the 79 Al Ahd members who won, 24 are mayors of municipal councils in different parts of the Kingdom and 54 are council members. Al Ahd has also a member in the Amman Municipality,

Mohammad Kawakneh. "We also supported the National Bloc that won in Zarqa," Mr. Majali said. According to Mr. Majall, the Islamists lost in Zarqa because they refused to forge alliances with other parties and groups. The National Bloc included two leftists and

one Christian. The leftists did not win, the Christian did. "We are not attacking the Islamists or the Islamic tion Front in particular, nor are we in confrontation with them. We are only saying the truth and defending our country in line with the Constitution." Mr. Majali said.

Mr. Majali said the party will also seek cooperation with other council mayors



Abdul Hadi Majali

and members who are not Al And affiliates or sympathis-

"More than 80 per cent of the council members and mayors are from the national stream," he said. "We have a lot in common."

Al Ahd was established in December 1992. Although it had a membership of more than 12,000 tast year accord-ing to party leader, it now

includes only 2,500.

The reduction of party members "was part of our restructuring policy," one Al Ahd member said.

Al Ahd is extractily based.

Al Ahd is primarily based on tribal affiliation and famiministers in the current cabinet.

"We support the government's policies. There is nothing wrong about that," Mr. Majali said. "There is nothing wrong with tribalism either. This is Jordan and not

GROZNY (Agencies) — Russian and Chechen negotiators are nearing a peace agreement. with only cer-tain "technical details" now outstanding, the head of the Chechen separatist delegation said Saturday.

As talks resumed in the

"All that remains are agreements on certain tech-nical details."

days of consultations with Chechen field commanders in the mountains of southern Chechenya, during which he presented them with a Russian proposal to solve the thorny question of the breakaway republic's political sta-

paragraphs from their proposals, and they have agreed on the same number. Several dozen paragraphs are still awaiting agreement."

agreed with a draft text for a peace accord.

tion for Security and Coop-

# Accord on Chechenya

He had returned from two

"We will not leave here.

We will stay overnight here, to make sure we have an agreement," said Imayev.
"We have agreed to 17

Russian tanks and troops stormed into Chechenya in December to crush the republic's three-year independence bid. Thousands of civilians, soldiers and rebel fighters have been killed in Russian bombing raids and

# said near

devastated Chechen capital Grozny, Usman Imayev told reporters: "All the major questions before the delegations are probably already solved."

Earlier several Chechen military leaders said that they

The talks are being held at the mission of the Organisaeration in Europe (OSCE)

## wants to give medal back to Chirac

STOCKHOLM (R) -Norwegian actress Liv Ullmann wants to return a prestigious medal to French President Jacques Chirac in protest at France's decision to resume nuclear testing. Swedish daily Aftonbladet said. Ullmann, filming in Stockholm, sent a handwritten fax to Mr. Chirac m protest at the planned tests and said she would soon return her French Order of Arts and Letters, the paper said. "Wouldn't you be the first to protest if a country far from your own decided to test its destructive might in your part of the wor Ullmann wrote to Mr. Chir-

### ac. Aftonbladet said. Robot headed to Mars named after black activist

WASHINGTON (AFP) The first robot to visit Mars was named Sojourner in hon-our of an American black activist as the result of an international contest for school children. NASA announced Friday. Twelveyear-old Valerie Ambroise of Connecticut came up with the winning name inspired by So-journer Truth, who fought for civil rights during the American Civil War. Some 3.500 youths on five continents participated in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) contest to name the six-wheeled robot recruited for the first mission to Mars-Sojourner will take off in December 1996 for its seven month visit to the "red

# Terms of reference approved for study on regional traffic By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A sub-group of the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process on Saturday approved the terms of reference for a comprehensive study on regional

The infrastructure committee of the Regional Economic Development Working Group (REDWG), one of the five multilateral panels set up shortly after the launch of the Middle East peace process in October 1991, also recognised that "there were important rehabilitation and new investment projects required immediate attention and reviewed criteria for the selection of such projects," said a statement issued by the committee and released by the Ministry of

Planning.
The statement did not give details of the discussions of the committee, which was meeting for the second time in Jordan in two months to give shape to key infrastructure projects of benefit to all parties in the Arab-Israeli

peace process. The infrastructure committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Ministry of Planning Secretary-General Nabil Ammari, includes the four "core" parties in the peace process - Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Palestinians as well as the European Union, the U.S. and several other countries.

The study on regional traffic is of key importance to

drawing up a comprehensive strategy to meet the rising demands of the region as the state of peace sets in among

the Arabs and Israelis. "The study will provide a model of traffic flows, estimates of the costs of various modes of transport - road. rail and maritime - and, on the basis of this research, an estimate of the likely traffic flows for specific modes and routes," said the statement. This analysis will be cru-

cial in planning future regional investments in the transport sector," it noted. One of the projects in the transport sector is a highway linking Egypt's Taba sea resort with Eilat and Aqaba. Other projects include an ambitious Jordanian prog-

ramme to upgrade and ex-

pand its railroads and expand the Aqaba scaport facilities. Israel and Egypt have their own projects, but the feasibility of all proposals have to be determined in light of the findings of the regional traffic study, which is financed by the European Union (EU). The Ministry of Planning

said that the meeting agreed that "resources in the transport sector, both domestically-generated and external, are limited and must be applied in a manner which will secure the best possible to support the economic and social development of the region.

"The (regional traffic). study. designed to provide a reliable forecast of the effects of the peace process on regional transport flow, will

help ensure that these investments can be focused on the most efficient and costeffective modes of transport and routes."

The meeting "expresses its appreciation" of the European Commission, the executive arm of the European Union, for the efforts "which have made to prepare the terms of reference and urged that the study be implemented as a matter of urgenev. This particular emphasis

was taken as a implicit reference to the fact that regional infrastructure projects. including transport projects. are expected to be discussed in detail at the Middle East and North Africa economic summit to be held in October in Amman, The meeting agreed that

unless new investment projects "are critically dependent on other investment decisions relating overall regional planning or preempt broader development options, their implementation should not be delayed." That referred to the pro-

jects individually drawn up by fordan, Israel, Egypt and the Palestinians with a semiregional dimension. According to officials, if any of the parties wanted to go ahead with a project, which also have a national character but is part of a regional structure. it should go ahead and implement the project without waiting for the deliberations of the working group but taking into account the regional dimension.

for AIDS patient

WASHINGTON (R) -- A

radical experiment to try to save the life of a dying AIDS.

patient by giving him a ba-boon bone marrow transplant,

got backing Friday from a U.S. team of health advisers

"I am going to die anyway."
Let's get on with finding some answers about this dis-

ease. If this saves me, then I got lucky." said Jeff Getty, the 37-year-old man who has volunteered to be the first to

undergo what even his own,

doctors describe as a "long shot" therapy. Though this is, not the first time animal cells, or organs will be implanted in, a human cross-species proce;

dures are rare and controver-

sial because they can expose people to viruses or other

disease-causing agents found

in animals. Even human im-

munodeficiency virus (HIV). which causes AIDS, is

thought to have originated in

monkeys. although scientists

are not sure how it spread to humans. The U.S. Food and

Drug Administration still

Drug Administration still must approve the experiment, which will be done and only one person. But a team of researchers hopes to perform the transplant on Mr. Getty in early September. Members of the FDA's Biological Response Modifiers Advisory Panel were pessimistic that this would save the life of Mr. Getty who has lived with AIDS for 15 years but whose health has

15 years but whose health has

GENEVA (AFP) - A new

United Nations agency to

coordinate the fight against

acquired immune deficiency

syndrome (AIDS) was launched here with an estimated budget of \$140 million. The

governing council of UN-AIDS met to appoint U.S.

Ambassador Sally Shelton as

its chairman and South Afri-

can Health Minister Dlamini

Zuma its vice-chairman, for. a

three year term. The U.N.

decided at the end of last year

to set up a new agency to coordinate the efforts of the World Health Organisation (WHO), the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), the U.N.

Development Programme

(UNDP), the U.N. Educa-

tional. Scientific and Cultural

Organisation (UNESCE)

and the U.N. Population

Fund. It had been found that

the various agencies had been

competing for funds, dupli-

cating activities and in some

cases giving contradictory advice to governments.

Liv Ullmann

now deteriorated.

agency to fight

AIDS launched

New U.N.

# Baboon marrow transplant backed

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